

1,000 killed as violent earthquake hits Iran

More than 11,000 people were reported last night to have died in an earthquake which struck the region of eastern Iran. Most of the dead were buried in the rubble of their homes. The town of Tabas was almost obliterated. The Government has sent relief aircraft and troops.

Supper-time tremors devastate town

Iran, Sept. 17—A violent earthquake, which demolished villages in the salt region of eastern Iran at supper-time, killed 11,000 people in the city of Tabas, the national news agency reported today. There were a further 10,000 killed and wounded in 40 other villages, according to state television. Twenty thousand people died when an earthquake hit the same region almost exactly 10 years ago in September, 1968. Although its epicentre was near the frontiers of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, last night's tremor was also felt in the religious centre of Mashhad, 240 miles to the north. The nine-hour vibrations also hit Tehran, where tall buildings swayed slightly, water splashed out of swimming pools and pictures and hangings fell off walls. All water, power and telephone connections were cut to the stricken region, and only fragments of reports got out about the disaster. "In every street [of Tabas] there are people under the rubble", Pars said. An Iran radio correspondent reported from the stricken town: "Tabas is a mound of rubble. There is nothing standing except the palm trees. All houses have collapsed, burying thousands of people." Empress Farah called the earthquake a "heart-rending tragedy" and appealed to the Iranian people to do all they could to help the victims.—UPI and Reuters.



Pardoe call for army to leave Ulster

From Christopher Walker, Belfast
Mr John Pardoe, deputy leader of the Liberal Party, added his voice to the still growing lobby demanding the withdrawal of all British troops from Northern Ireland in a controversial interview broadcast from Dublin yesterday by Radio Telefis Eirann, the Irish state radio.

Emphasizing that he was speaking personally and not for his party, Mr Pardoe argued that the next British government should set a date for withdrawal and call all groups in Ulster, including the political wing of the Provisional IRA, to a constitutional conference.

In recent weeks the idea of withdrawal has received editorial backing from the Daily Mirror and has been shown, in a compilation of opinion polls by a group of academics, to have considerable support. Mr Pardoe claimed yesterday that English influence in Ireland had always been disastrous. The sooner it was removed, the more likely it would be that the Irish would resolve their difficulties. He dismissed the widely held view that a withdrawal of the 13,500 British soldiers would lead to a civil war between Roman Catholics and Protestants.

His remarks appeared to surprise the Irish interviewer, who asked if the MP was aware that a declared intent to withdraw was a principal demand of the Provisional IRA. Mr Pardoe replied: "Yes, I am afraid to say that I actually agree with the IRA on that point. It is the only point I do agree with them on. I think that their methods are vile and revolting and I condemn them utterly." After the recent Liberal conference Mr Pardoe said there was a "strong mood" in Britain favouring withdrawal. He is the most senior British politician so far to have spoken out in favour of withdrawal.

Mr Steel gives party some cheer

Mr Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, is giving his personal backing to the Leyland Vehicles management team to make it absolutely clear that Bathgate—presently halted by an unofficial strike of 1,500 machinists—will not be reopened unless a "modus vivendi" is agreed. The board of the subsidiary Leyland Vehicles, led by Mr Jack Smart, is to meet a team of trade union representatives today at the Charing Cross Hotel in London for a fundamental review of Bathgate's future. Mr Edwards, who has apparently instructed his Leyland Vehicles management team to make it absolutely clear that Bathgate—presently halted by an unofficial strike of 1,500 machinists—will not be reopened unless a "modus vivendi" is agreed. The board of the subsidiary Leyland Vehicles, led by Mr Jack Smart, is to meet a team of trade union representatives today at the Charing Cross Hotel in London for a fundamental review of Bathgate's future.

Mr Steel referred bleakly to the party's recent difficulties. Every party could expect to run into political troubles, "but we have had other distressing problems as well", he said. He thought the party had emerged from the week bloody but unbowed, and if adversity was good for the soul, "all our prospects of redemption must really have been improved". Report of Speech, page 4. Liberals look for another door, page 14.



Taxi jam: More than 1,100 taxis blocking Parliament Street and Whitehall for several hours yesterday as part of a campaign by drivers for a 28 per cent increase in fares. A petition signed by 10,000 of London's 17,000 taxi drivers was handed in at 10 Downing Street and about 3,000 demonstrators, mostly drivers and their families, marched past the street chanting slogans and carrying placards. The protest was organized by the Licensed Taxi Drivers' Association, which says that London's cab service is deteriorating rapidly because of a refusal by the Government to allow fares to keep pace with inflation. The association says drivers are considerably worse off than in 1975. In the past three years London rail fares had gone up by 93 per cent, bus fares by 126 per cent and Underground fares by 147 per cent, but cab fares had only increased by 61 per cent. It is pressing the Government to publish a recent Price Commission report on taxi fares. The petition was presented by a delegation which included London's first woman cab driver, the Cab Driver of the Year, and one of London's oldest cab drivers. They were taken to Downing Street in a 1934 taxi, but the man behind the wheel was not a taxi driver.

line for ending the summit would be set as actually made by Vice-President Walter Mondale, who has been brought to Camp David several times during the summit to second Mr Carter's efforts. He saw both Mr Sadat and Mr Begin on Friday evening and they both agreed that the summit should end today. Mr Begin, of course, did not negotiate during the Jewish Sabbath. It ended at dusk yesterday and he conducted ceaseless negotiations with the Americans from then on. So did Mr Sadat and less senior officials from all three delegations. The large gathering of reporters at Thurmont, where the American Legion hall as a press centre waited throughout the day for word of the outcome of the summit. Their various "well informed sources" who have supplied them with snippets of information, not all of it reliable, over the past two weeks fell silent. It was too late to speculate on what was happening on the mountain top. The Arab world prepared for the ending of the Camp David

summit today with the same mixture of profound pessimism and suspicion that has become so familiar over the past two weeks. Newspapers in Cairo, together with the official radio, were conditioning the Egyptian public to the prospects of failure while Syria maintained its attacks on the "conspiracy of Camp David" and issued warnings of the "grave crisis" into which the Arab states were about to be plunged. The first of the Arab leaders attending Wednesday's anti-Sadat summit meeting in Damascus, President Ali Nasser Muhammad of South Yemen, leaves Aden tomorrow for Baghdad, where he may try to persuade the Iraqi Government to lend its support to the Syrian conference. Syria, Algeria and Libya, as well as South Yemen and the Palestine Liberation Organisation are to attend the "Arab Solidarity Front" summit in Damascus. Syria's attacks on Camp David have recently redirected their venom away from the Egyptian President towards the United States and Israel, a tactic which, in however oblique a manner, probably foreshadows some undoubtedly painful offer of reconciliation to President Sadat. One of this morning's Damascus newspapers referred to an American-Israeli plot "to reorganize the occupation of Arab territories." Another paper, *Tishrin*, said that the Arab nations will soon "be called upon to face the bloody results that the conference has had in Lebanon and, through Lebanon, against Syria." In Egypt, where no criticism of President Sadat is likely to mar the press reaction to Camp David, the semi-official newspaper *Al-Ahram* said that the President would hold a press conference in the next 48 hours. The weekly magazine *October*, which often reflects Mr Sadat's feelings more accurately than *Al-Ahram* announced that if the Camp David summit failed to reach any conclusive agreement, then the Egyptian, Israeli and American leaders would "declare their intention of continuing the peace-making process." Moscow's view, page 5.

Eoka group threatens to kill hostages

Nicosia, Sept. 17—Six Greek Cypriot extremists who attempted to break out of Nicosia's central prison were today reported to have threatened to kill their seven hostages, three guards and four policemen, and fight to the death unless freed. The Government, however, refused to negotiate with the extremists, members of the right-wing Eoka-B underground movement, who shot and wounded a policeman in an unsuccessful escape attempt yesterday.

Police identified the ring-leaders as Vassos Pavlides, who organized the kidnapping, last year, of President Spyros Kyprianou's son Achilles, who is a lieutenant in the Greek Cypriot National Guard and who commands a unit helping to cordon off the prison. Pavlides and the other prisoners seized their hostages after his fiancée, Androula Neocleous, smuggled in a pistol and remained in the jail, police said.—AP, Reuters, UPI.

Ceaseless talks on both sides at Camp David

From Patrick Brogan, Thurmont, Maryland, Sept. 17
President Carter, President Sadat of Egypt and Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, made a last effort today to reach an agreement on peace in the middle East. The Camp David summit has lasted 12 days and the Americans decided on Friday evening that the only hope of persuading Egyptians and Israelis, particularly the Jewish Sabbath, to modify their positions was to set a deadline for ending it. For days the official American spokesman has said that while some progress has been made, greater flexibility was still needed. In other words, one or both of the two sides had still to give way on some matter of essential principle if an agreement were to be reached. There were clear suggestions that in the Americans' view, the chief stumbling block was Israeli (or Mr Begin's) obduracy over conceding that Israel must, at some stage, renounce all claims to sovereignty over the occupied territories. The suggestion that a dead-

line for ending the summit would be set as actually made by Vice-President Walter Mondale, who has been brought to Camp David several times during the summit to second Mr Carter's efforts. He saw both Mr Sadat and Mr Begin on Friday evening and they both agreed that the summit should end today. Mr Begin, of course, did not negotiate during the Jewish Sabbath. It ended at dusk yesterday and he conducted ceaseless negotiations with the Americans from then on. So did Mr Sadat and less senior officials from all three delegations. The large gathering of reporters at Thurmont, where the American Legion hall as a press centre waited throughout the day for word of the outcome of the summit. Their various "well informed sources" who have supplied them with snippets of information, not all of it reliable, over the past two weeks fell silent. It was too late to speculate on what was happening on the mountain top. The Arab world prepared for the ending of the Camp David

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Mr Varley backs Leyland over shutdown threat

By Maurice Corbin, Industrial Editor
Mr Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, is giving his personal backing to the Leyland Vehicles management team to make it absolutely clear that Bathgate—presently halted by an unofficial strike of 1,500 machinists—will not be reopened unless a "modus vivendi" is agreed. The board of the subsidiary Leyland Vehicles, led by Mr Jack Smart, is to meet a team of trade union representatives today at the Charing Cross Hotel in London for a fundamental review of Bathgate's future.

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The question mark now overhanging Bathgate is no less serious than that which faced the 1972 plant at the Speke cars factory on Merseyside, where Leyland axed many jobs and switched production elsewhere. Bathgate employs 4,850 hourly paid workers and 1,400 staff workers. It exports 46 per cent of its £250m output of vehicles, ranging in size from 3.5 tons to 26 tons, and makes other products such as diesel engines, axles and tractors. Mr Edwards is incensed by the unconstitutional action by machinists, who are following new products have been decided, and the previously decided transfer of important new work from a sister plant at Glasgow, the Albion works, will not go ahead.

disputes this year. Last year, Bathgate was the centre of a very damaging stoppage. In the first half of this year, Leyland Vehicles saw profits plunge to barely break-even point, and it has now become clear that new expenditures outlined to the National Enterprise Board cannot now be justified under Mr Edwards' tough new management criteria. Bathgate is one of the Leyland plants where Mr Edwards and his main BL board are fully prepared to make a stand until it gets its way on procedure agreements, more disciplined labour relations and a works committee dedicated to keeping operations going while problems get sorted out. Only last week Mr Edwards

said: "If we say we will not meet the demands of the strikers at Bathgate because we cannot, and should not, I mean it. And I do not care whether that plant is closed down for six months and I mean what I say." The present strike is over substantial payments being demanded by the machinists before they use new computer-controlled machine tools, even though an agreement was signed with the AEUW. Warnings about the management's determination to stand firm have gone unheeded. The Leyland Vehicle's board has seen Bathgate's production performance miss targets by 60 per cent in a buoyant market for commercial vehicles. Chrysler waits, page 19.

Tories aim campaign at immigrants

Advertisements setting out Tory policy on immigration will appear in 14 ethnic newspapers this month, the Conservative Central Office announced today. The advertisement says that the Conservative believe minority relations in Britain would be seriously harmed if the people who are here feel threatened by unlimited new arrivals. It goes on: "So the Conservative policy is to encourage harmonious relations by relieving this fear. Fair but firm immigration policies, will allow everyone the chance of a better life."

The advertisement is translated into Punjabi, Gujarati, Urdu, Hindi and Bengali. The advertisement headed "Why you should vote Conservative", says: "You have nothing to fear from a Conservative government. We want to do away with the label 'immigrant'." "Fears have been aroused, often for political ends, that the Conservatives will send immigrants home. But this is a lie. We have repeatedly stated that there can be no question of compulsory repatriation." The Conservative drive comes after their controversial campaign denouncing Labour's record on unemployment.

invited them to send observers to satisfy themselves as to the impartiality and fairness of the planned general election, which now appears likely to be postponed until the new year. Mr Giles Pace, an American Vietnam veteran, is gaining much publicity here over his announced plan to bring as many as 300 fellow veterans to Rhodesia to help fight the war as private guards to missions and farms. Mr Pace said his "Christian Crusaders" particularly want to reopen the Elim mission in eastern Rhodesia where 13 British missionaries were massacred earlier this year. The Government however is treating the American group warily. The Executive Council announced later that urgent consideration is to be given to an invitation by 27 United States Senators to the council including Mr Ian Smith, the Prime Minister, to tour America. Headed by Senator Hayakawa from California, the Senators, both Republican and Democratic, have asked President Carter to allow Mr Smith in particular and other members of the council visit.

Both Mr Stibole and Bishop Munoz have made frequent visits to America but Mr Smith and Chief Jeremiah Chimure have previously been unable to obtain visas. Mr Smith has long wanted to go to Washington to put the case for the internal agreement. The Executive Council again appealed to Britain and the United States to support the transitional Government, and



Healey reaction lay to EEC currency plan

His Healey, the Chancellor, is expected to give his views on the proposed monetary system at a meeting today. The system was agreed in Bonn and Germany on Friday and against British expectations that it be based on a scheme designed to focus on currency intervention on currency countries like Germany. Page 19.

Examination results 'being covered up'

A claim that comprehensive school examination results are being covered up to hide the betrayal of educational opportunities, by Mr Rhodes Boyson, the Conservative MP, was denied by a junior education minister, who said national results by type of school were published annually. Page 3.

Award for 'Europa'

Europa, the economic monthly newspaper, published jointly by The Times and three other European newspapers, has been awarded the Zaccari prize for Europe for its contribution to spreading the ideals of the European Community. Page 4.

British team out

Britain's hopes of regaining the world three-day event championship in Lexington founded when the team was eliminated after the speed and endurance section. Canada now look likely to win. Page 10.

Closed shop battle: A man who refused to join a union has won his appeal against unfair dismissal by British Rail. Page 3.

Washington: American research satellite launched 13 years ago breaks up over northern Angola as it reenters Earth's atmosphere. Page 6.

Western Australia: A four-page Special Report on a state in search of industrial growth. Page 3.

Venezuela accused of backing rebels

Nicaragua has accused Venezuela of sending aircraft to strafe its territory in support of a rebel commando moving in from neighbouring Costa Rica. President Somoza's Government has also recalled its ambassadors from Costa Rica, Panama and Venezuela. Battle for León, page 6.

Leader page, 15.

Letters: On Rhodesia's future, from Mr Tim Redburn, MP; hypertension, from Professor Thomas McKenna. Page 14 and 17.

Leading articles: European monetary plans; United States-Soviet relations. Features, pages 14 and 17.

Lord Chalfont on the poisonous vendetta being launched against the Shah; Geoffrey Smith on the Liberal's search for a new role. Arts, page 5.

Irving Wardle on As You Like It (Aldwych); Joan Chalfont on the Leeds International Piano Competition; Stanley Smith on the Proms. Sport, pages 10, 11 and 13.

Racing: Alleged sets, course record at Longchamp; Football: England have no injury problems for European championship match in Denmark. Obituaries, page 16.

Mr Bruce Montgomery (Edmund Crispin); Major-General Sir John Marriott; Mrs Olga Masaryk. Business News, pages 18-24.

Financial Editor: Fresh enthusiasm for traded options; Building societies defending their role. Business management: An Irish multinational takes shape; Reaction to company chiefs and fraud; Promotion for women. Business Diary in Europe: Britain as a model of consumer protection. Page 2.

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Rhodesia will conscript blacks for war service

From Frederick Cleary, Salisbury, Sept. 17

Africans are to be conscripted for service with the Rhodesian security forces in the guerrilla war, the Rev Nkomo said. The current chairman of the Executive Council, announced at the weekend.

Mr Stibole said that the principle of calling up Africans on the same lines as whites, Asians and Coloureds, had been agreed in the transitional Government last week because it was felt that blacks should help defend the internal agreement, which would give them political power.

Although at present three-quarters of the Rhodesian security forces are black, they are all volunteers, with the exception of black doctors and about 220 apprentices who are conscripted. Africans have long opposed conscription, saying they do not believe in defending a government system which still denies them full civil rights and political power. Mr Stibole, also said, the Executive Council had decided to shelve the question of attending an all-party settlement conference, the sole purpose of which was to transfer power to the Patriotic Front guerrillas and install Mr Joshua Nkomo as dictator. The Executive Council again appealed to Britain and the United States to support the transitional Government, and

invited them to send observers to satisfy themselves as to the impartiality and fairness of the planned general election, which now appears likely to be postponed until the new year.

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WE, THE LIMBLESS, LOOK TO YOU FOR HELP

We come from both world wars. We come from Kenya, Malaya, Aden, Cyprus... and from Ulster. From keeping the peace no less than from war we limbless look to you for help.

And you can help, by helping our Association. BLESMA (the British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association) looks after the limbless from all the Services. It helps, with advice and encouragement, to overcome the shock of losing arms, or legs or an eye. It sees that red-tape does not stand in the way of the right entitlement to pension. And, for the severely handicapped and the elderly, it provides Residential Homes where they can live in peace and dignity.

Help BLESMA, please. We need money desperately. And, we promise you, not a penny of it will be wasted.

British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association

Donations and information: Major The Earl of Ancaster, 10, Midland Bank Ltd., 60 West Smithfield, London EC4A 3DF.

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report aimed at recreating a
ch man and nature can thrive
in industrial Britain. Page 3.

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HOME NEWS

Results in comprehensive schools Covered up to hide betrayal Opportunities, Tory MP claims

Bradley, in-controlled local education authorities, with the aid of the Secretary of State for Education, are refusing to publish the results of comprehensive schools for fear of public reaction when the results of state schools are published.

Mr. Bradley, Conservative MP for North, said that the council was up a research team and early results because the council members, teachers and education officers, are collecting the whole educational

partite education system, was three times more likely to obtain an A level pass than a child in Manchester, which is totally comprehensive. Trafford children were five times more likely to gain a grade A in the examination.

The figures show that schools in Trafford, with less than half the number of pupils compared with Manchester, obtained 1,396 A level passes, compared with 999 in Manchester schools. Some grammar schools in Trafford had more A grades in one subject than did all the 26 Manchester comprehensive schools together.

According to the survey, 16 of Manchester's 26 comprehensive schools had fewer than 30 A level passes, and nine had fewer than 11 passes. One school with 1,119 pupils had eight A level passes, seven of which were grade E or below.

Unions objector wins fight over dismissal by BR

Leslie Sagers, who was dismissed by British Rail, has won a legal battle against the closed shop system. Employment Appeal Tribunal ruled that religious objections to union membership, and not those of the sect to which he belonged, were the basis of his dismissal.

Employment Appeal Tribunal ruled in his favour. They said it was a man's personal religious beliefs that counted in allowing him to escape union membership, and not those of the sect to which he belonged.

In September, 1976, a London industrial tribunal rejected his first claim, saying that, although sincere, Mr Sagers had not proved a genuine religious objection to union membership.

In May, 1977, Mr Sagers took his case to the appeal tribunal, which ruled that the industrial tribunal had not applied the right legal test and ordered reconsideration. In September, 1977, the industrial tribunal again rejected his claim.

Mr Sagers appealed a second time, and the judges have ruled by two to one that Mr Sagers clearly established a genuine objection. "We are driven to say by a majority that the decision by the industrial tribunal was one that no reasonable tribunal could have reached," the chairman of the Employment Appeal Tribunal, Mr Justice Giller Brown, said in a reserved judgment.

Judges' Rules need legal checking, group says

Judges' Rules governing the treatment of suspects should be given the force of law, the National Association of Magistrates' Clerks and Resettlement Officers said in a memorandum to the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure yesterday.

The memorandum obtained by continuing the rules should not be made as evidence, it said. Public interest demanded a balance between ensuring the rights of suspects and the rights of justice in ensuring the guilty were convicted.

It is desirable that the rights of police and rights of suspects were clearly defined. The present situation was unsatisfactory, the memorandum said. Rules did not have the force of law. A judge retained discretion to admit evidence obtained in breach of them. That was "a weak incentive to adhere to them."

Big rise in social security inquiries to advice bureaux

Robin Young, Minister of Social Security, said that the number of inquiries to social security advice bureaux had risen by a third in the last year.

The service's annual report said that those inquiries rose more than a fifth last year, attributes the increase to the lowering of the unemployment rate.

The total of inquiries to the bureaux rose from 756 in the year ended March 31 last, to 1,000 in the year ended March 31 this year. The rate is equivalent to one in 10 of the population going to an advice bureau for help each year.

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personal" category, which increased to 631,000, partly because of changes in the availability of legal aid in divorce proceedings.

The number of consumer inquiries about trade and business matters exceeded the number of housing inquiries for the first time. The report says the service will be watching figures in that category because of the reduction in statutory consumer services through cuts in spending by local authorities.

The movement's chairman, Dr. Dennis Brailsford, says in his statement that he will be pressing for the appointment of a minister with overall responsibility for information and advice-giving.

It is evident, since bureaux are lacking in many areas, that demand would be greater if there were bureaux to meet it, he says.

Annual Report (free from the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux, 110 Drury Lane, London, WC2B 5SW).

Mr. A. Roger Davies

Mr. Anthony Roger Davies, of Queen Elizabeth Building, Temple, asks us to make clear that he is not the barrister reported on September 6 as having been suspended from practice for the second time in 13 months.

Skylarks, wagtails and mignonette are back, and once placid cats run wild in the urban jungle Recreating the mood for rapport between man and nature

From Arthur Osman
Birmingham

To anyone with a passing knowledge of the Black Country, and of Wednesbury in particular, the news that the skylark has been heard again in that unlovely place is reassuring.

Its reappearance after 150 years of ruthless industrial pressure is mentioned in a report to be published tomorrow by the Nature Conservancy Council on how wildlife has adapted itself to the essentially urban environment of the West Midlands.

The report, by Mr. W. G. (Bunny) Teagle, aged 58, of Swansage, Dorset, the natural historian and urban ecologist, covers Birmingham and the Black Country. It is the first part of the council's national project to show that wildlife is vital to the urban environment and to the renewal of inner cities.

Its title, *The Endless Village*, is from an early-nineteenth-century mining report which said of the Black Country:

"The traveller appears never to get out of an interminable village". That still seems true today, even though Mr Teagle reports that nature is reasserting itself in unlikely places: wild mignonette in Birmingham, linnets in Walsall and willow warblers at Netherton among them.

Mr Robert Boote, the council's director, said: "We shall be developing the thinking in this report in cooperation with a range of interested bodies into a strategy to help make our cities worthwhile places to live in for wildlife and people alike, and to recreate a real rapport between man and nature."

Mr Teagle said that man's abuse of land had rarely been influenced by the aesthetic or scientific value of wildlife. It was very encouraging to know that planning authorities were compensating for the human errors of the past.

The term "industrial wasteland" in the popular mind conjured up a picture of lifeless desolation. Yet some old sites often provided some of the area's richest wildlife habitats. He had noted 1,500 pied wag-

tails roosting on a factory roof in Birmingham, a pair nesting in a police college flowerbed, and a kestrel nesting in the tower of Birmingham University.

Another in evidence was the black redstart, one of Britain's rarer breeding birds and often overlooked because it frequented such places as gasworks and power stations, "repellent to the average ornithologist".

The collared dove, which first bred in Britain only 22 years ago, was becoming as much a part of suburbia as the garden gnome.

The area held an extraordinarily large population of domestic cats living wild in the grounds of hospitals, gasworks and factories, where they sheltered and rear families in hot air ducts. "Colonies of 30 to 40 cats seem to be common, and from one site in Birmingham, 349 animals were removed in six weeks," he says.

Kestrels have been seen behaving like scavenging kites, talking kitchen scraps and trying to snatch small birds from lawns, behaviour never previously recorded.

Even the "spaghetti junction" motorway interchange provides a short-tailed vole living beneath the ever-present traffic noise, together with very rare spiders. The banks of the M6 and M5 provide hunting grounds for kestrels.

Mr Teagle's search for the common or garden snail (*Helix aspersa*), all too common in the south of England, was long and almost fruitless until a Dudley woman sent him a tin of specimens.

A chapter written jointly by Mr Teagle and Mr George Barker, the council's deputy regional officer, says that urban parks are often little more than green deserts. The near-sterile tidiness of the typical town park was costly to maintain and suited only the hardiest of wild birds and plants.

There are those who long for less regimentation and sympathize with Rupert Brooke, who preferred the English hedgerows, with their unofficial roses, to tulips that "bloom as they are told".

There is nearly always room for a few features of more natural beauty and the park's formal attractions need not be

impaired. Steep banks could be left uncut. The absence of low cover provided by shrubs and tall herbs is often the main reason why the average town park has such an impoverished fauna.

A plea might also be made for a few misshapen or contorted trees. They offer more accommodation for small animals than the military ramrods of recent park planting, especially when they reach old age.

Most industrial premises, they say, have small areas of land which could be developed cheaply as wildlife sanctuaries, and factory owners were urged to set up nest boxes, which had long been a feature of factory buildings in Sweden.

But vandalism and the dumping of rubbish, from refuse to toxic chemicals, encouraged authorities and landowners to remove hedges, fill ponds, culverts and streams, and remove rough vegetation.

Dumping can thus do great harm to wild plants and animals, since it can lead to loss of habitat, they say. "It is also tiresome and unpleasant for human beings that have to live with it or deal with it."

Effective publishing 'vital to Welsh'

From Our Own Correspondent
Cardiff

An effective publishing system is vital to the survival of the Welsh language, the Council for the Welsh Language says in a report published today.

Of a population of 2,700,000 in Wales, only 542,400 speak Welsh, and 448,600 read it.

The report says the average number of Welsh books published annually is 250, each with an average sale of 80. Of the total of about 200,000, more than half are bought by libraries and schools, and the rest by individuals.

Because the books are so unprofitable, writing in Welsh is

essentially an amateur pursuit.

The report recommends that until the industry can become self-supporting, continued support should be given by the Welsh Joint Education Committee, the Welsh Arts Council and the Welsh Books Council.

Publishing in the Welsh Language (Stationery Office, Cardiff, £2.50).

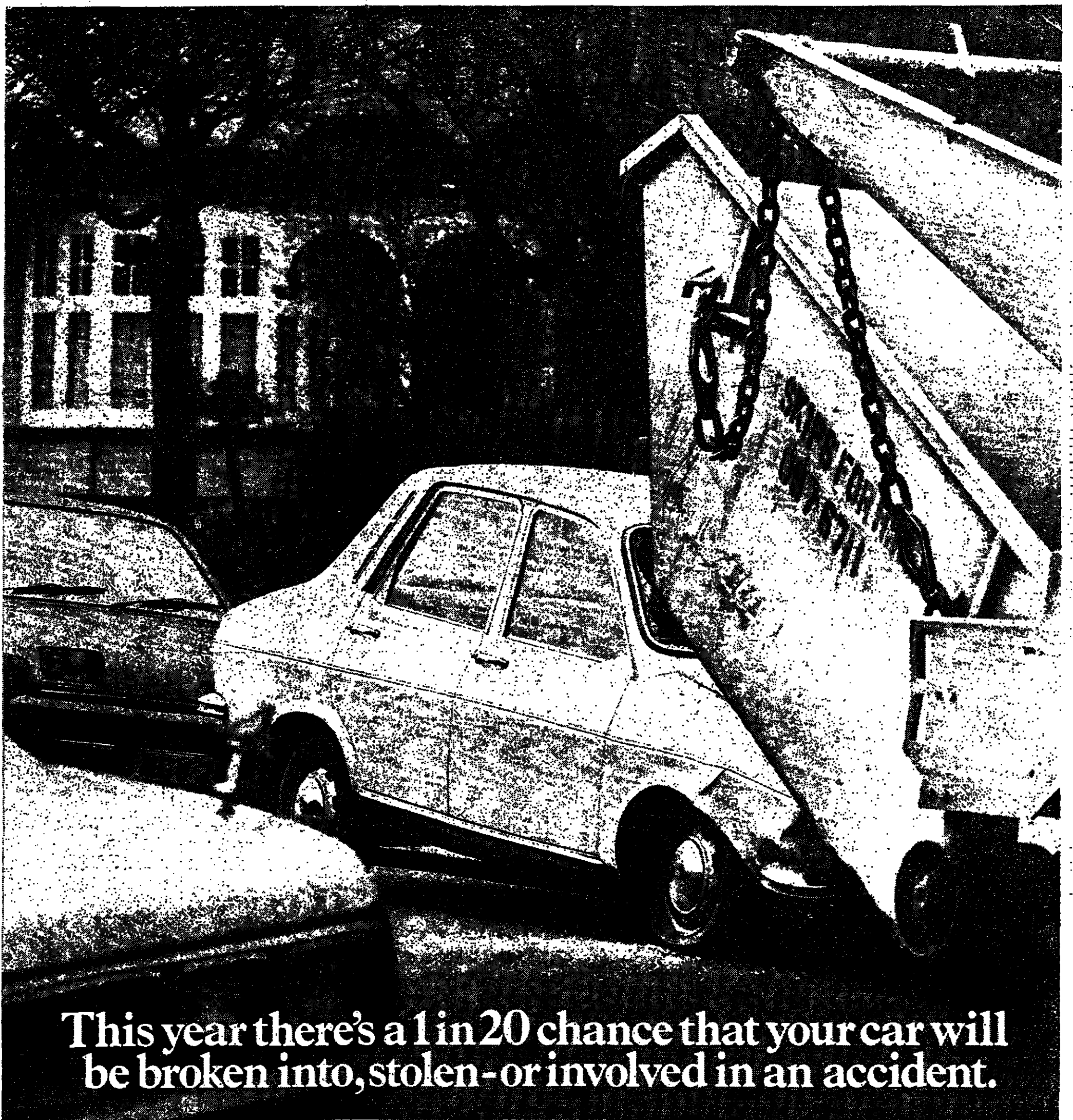
Steady food prices forecast

This year's bountiful harvest of corn, fruit, vegetables, eggs, milk and meat is likely to mean steady food prices for months ahead, Mr. John Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said yesterday.

The last of a record grain harvest, estimated at 17.5m tonnes, over 500,000 tonnes more than last year, was being harvested; the potato crop was

heavy and prices were the lowest for years; and what appeared like a record sugar beet crop was expected to produce more than a million tonnes of sugar.

Milk production was at record levels, and autumn grazing and good prospects for winter fodder; and butter production was up by 46,000 tonnes this year.



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an Opposition MPs walk out of arliament in protest at 'illegal' imposition of martial law

Mr Banni-Ahmad also said the law gave no authority for the killings that took place when troops fired on rioters during the first day of martial law. The law was being misused to harass people.

Mr Banni-Ahmad added that despite his parliamentary immunity, security officers were preventing people from entering his house to help him compile a list of those killed in rioting 10 days ago. He had earlier told Parliament he was compiling the list to counter the official toll of 97.

Meanwhile Miss Liz Thurgood, a correspondent for *The Guardian*, was believed today to be seeking from Foreign Ministry officials an explanation for an expulsion order served on her yesterday.

Miss Thurgood, aged 31, was given 72 hours to leave the country. No reason was given for the order. Sources said howsoever the Government viewed Miss Thurgood's reports as being heavily biased against the regime, in particular one on a demonstration by relatives of riot victims at a Tehran cemetery last Thursday.

The martial law authorities in Tehran eased the curfew by an hour and a half, reflecting

ing the general relaxation of tension in the city. The curfew will now start at 11 pm and finish at 4.30 am.

Mr. Shari-Esmail promised yesterday that his Government would try to end martial law well within the allotted six months. In Parliament yesterday, he offered further evidence of what the Government says was a well-planned communist plot to provoke a general rebellion to overthrow the Shah.

The Prime Minister presented a report by the Army and Gendarmerie police which said the communists began to infiltrate religious circles and stir up feelings against the Shah long before the first serious rioting in Tabriz in February.

The report said the security forces had documentary evidence of a communist plot including details of a meeting in Paris. European leaders have agreed that their past failures to make inroads in Iran had been caused by their failure to exploit religious discontent.

Mr. Shari-Esmail gave a warning that the plot was not over yet and the Government was still the alert for further trouble.

Lord Chalfont, page 14

Pretoria call to Britain on Namibia plan crisis

From Ray Kennedy
Johannesburg, Sept 17

Mr R. F. Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, has urgent talks by telephone with Dr. Owen last night after Western ambassadors in Pretoria met Mr Brand Fourie, the South African Secretary for Foreign Affairs.

Mr Botha said today he called the Foreign Secretary over the West, replying the South African Cabinet delivered early last week on the Namibia (South West Africa) independence issue.

There were increasingly gloomy signs this weekend that the 20-month process of negotiation between the two sides indicated by the West may finally collapse in the coming week.

There is a hardening attitude among some South African Cabinet members, led by Mr P. W. Botha, the hawkish defence minister, who indicated there will be no further compromise despite the threat of United Nations economic sanctions in the event of a unilateral South African independence plan.

Mr Botha said the Cabinet must decide whether to continue negotiations or to go it alone will be taken by the Cabinet on Tuesday.

Mr P. W. Botha, the hawkish

Presenting President Carter's best profile

From Frank Vogt
US Economics Correspondent
Washington, Sept 17.

President Carter's popularity has risen sharply over the past month according to the results of a Louis Harris poll. Forty per cent of respondents expressed support for the President, with 57 per cent indicating disapproval.

The results of a similar poll released on August 14 showed only 30 per cent support and 69 per cent disapproval.

The issues related to this increase in popularity include Mr Carter's handling of the Camp David summit, his veto of the military appropriations Bill and optimism over his energy proposals.

But the President's long-term standing in public opinion is likely to depend upon the decisions made to be taken by Congress on a number of important Bills.

The White House is confident of congressional approval for its natural gas, tax reduction and civil service reform proposals and believes the American people will in time view these as great achievements.

The author of the White House plans in the domestic field is a brilliant



Mr Eizenstat : Brilliant political architect.

finger was to President Nixon in foreign affairs.

Certainly there is no single person on the foreign affairs side of this Administration whose power matches that of Mr. Elzenrat in the domestic field. It is often his opinion on economic policies, rather than that of Mr. Michael Blumenthal, the Treasury Secretary, which appears to influence Mr. Carter's decisions.

Speaking to a group of business leaders in New York the other day, Mr. Elzenrat outlined the Administration's domestic aims.

One of the hardest jobs for the President, he said, was to increase public trust in government institutions and leaders after the crises of Vietnam and Watergate. To some extent this President was doing this by high school relations techniques—attending regular press meetings, giving forthrightly public conferences (something no other President has ever done) and holding regular meetings with newspaper editors.

In addition, the Administration was striving to reveal thousands of government documents from the secrecy list to "try and let some sunshine in."

on what this Government is doing," Mr. Eisenhower added.

A second key theme of this Administration was to make government more effective and more responsive to public needs. To achieve this the White House had sent Congress six government reorganization proposals, including one dealing with full-scale reform of the civil service, which now appeared certain of approval. The White House also started a review of government regulations. Pressure on departments to abandon outdated rules had resulted already in the elimination of 1,000 regulations by the Occupational Safety and Health Agency alone.

The Administration was also striving to overhaul the old welfare systems, which gave grants to all who sought them, no matter how many. It had created that directed funds to those specific areas and needs which were most deserving.

At the same time the Administration was determined to ensure continuing economic growth and curb inflation. New anti-inflation policies might be needed soon and Mr. Eisenhower claimed that the Administration's budget and tax cuts would support those goals.

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Court orders halt to Jewish settlement

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, Sept 17

Arab landowners near Jerusalem won a round today in their struggle against Jewish settlement in occupied territory.

The Israeli High Court issued a temporary injunction ordering the Defence Minister and senior Army officers administering the West Bank to suspend the construction of dwellings on 20 acres at Bethel, near Jerusalem, and to stop housing Jewish civilians in them. The land was expropriated eight years ago for security.

The officials were given 40 days to show cause why the construction should not be halted altogether and why the Jewish citizens should not be offered to local Arabs.

The unfinished buildings are now occupied by 60 Jews who rushed in last week after 12 Arab owners of expropriated lands applied for an injunction.

A letter from General Abraham Ori, the military governor, stating that the land was not being sold for any purpose, was accepted by the judges.

Michael Krieger writes from

Jerusalem: Chief Rabbi Ovadia Josef expressed deep concern today over violence in Jerusalem between religious zealots and secular Jews. He called for communal tolerance while urging the authorities to do all in their power to preserve the character of the Jewish sabbath.

Yesterday a mob of between 500 and 600 zealots gathered in scores of thousands in the ultra religious quarter of Mea Shearim and began throwing stones as passing cars.

After violent clashes one person was taken to hospital with multiple stab wounds and another was arrested. It was the sixth consecutive sabbath to be marked by such confrontations.

Out of respect for the views of strictly observant Jews, streets are shut around such communities are closed by the police from dusk on Friday night until dusk on Saturday. However, Zealots have recently been attempting to extend the closed-off areas in Jerusalem by blocking streets and passing cars on adjoining streets and moving police barriers.

Vorster ill-health starts party leadership struggle

From Gerald Shaw
Cape Town, Sept 17

A leadership crisis was developing in South Africa's ruling National Party this weekend as Mr Vorster, the Prime Minister, who is now ill, prepared to fly to Pretoria to disclose his intentions to his colleagues at a Cabinet meeting on Tuesday.

Some Nationalist MPs have already begun intense canvassing on behalf of their favourite candidates to succeed him.

But informed observers say that Mr Vorster, who has been ordered by his doctors to rest, is considering three options, including the possibility of staying on for the time being.

The other options are to announce a resignation for the less ceremonial and largely ceremonial post of state President, or to withdraw entirely from public life.

If he decides to stay, it might well be on account of the delicate state of the negotiations with the United Nations on the future of Namibia (South-West Africa).

Mr Vorster also has been concerned about the possibility of a party rift over the succession. There is no obvious successor in the wings. Although Mr

P. W. Botha, the Deputy Prime Minister, Cape Party Leader and Minister of Defence, appears to be the front-runner, there are other strong candidates.

The party's parliamentary caucus will meet on September 28 to nominate a successor to the late Dr Nicolaas Diederichs as state president (if the Vorster government is not elected) or bows out altogether; the caucus will also be required to choose a new party leader who would become Prime Minister.

According to some sources, one of the possible candidates, Mr S. P. Botha, the Minister of Labour, is making strong headway in the Transvaal party, the biggest group in the caucus.

The leading Transvaal minister, Dr Connie Mulder, Minister of Plural Relations, has lost substantial ground recently.

Another Transvaal-based candidate, Mr R. F. Botha, the Foreign Minister, while he has strong popular support, is 'low down in Cabinet seniority and in his standing in the party.'

It is sometimes contended, especially by well considered opinion, that Mr P. W. Botha and Mr S. P. Botha, who has impeccable conservative credentials in the party and considerable Cabinet seniority.

British pledge on Rhodesian pension rights

By Our Foreign Staff

Mr Colin Reese, leader of a deputation of Rhodesian civil servants, left London for Salisbury yesterday with what was regarded by the Rhodesian Public Services Association (PSA) as an "irrevocable commitment" by Britain to ensure that the members' pension rights will be honoured by an independent Government.

He took with him a letter from Mr Edward Rowlands, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, welcoming the civil servants' willingness to remain at their posts in the interests of an orderly transition of power and assuring them that Britain will use its influence to see that pension obligations are upheld.

The letter will be put to 5,000 key civil servants in Salisbury on Thursday with a recommendation that they carry on at their posts in the interests of stability.

In his letter, Mr Rowlands said that the future security of pensions of civil servants in Rhodesia should be a central concern of any majority Government.

The civil servants will continue to press for the protection of the Overseas Pensions Act.

Tornado kills 7 at motorway service station

Grinnell, Iowa, Sept. 17.—At least seven people were killed and 40 injured when a tornado struck the main interstate highway here about 10 miles east of Ames. A service area and demolishing two filling stations and a restaurant.

Rescue workers feared they would find more bodies as they sifted through cars and buildings wrecked by the storm.

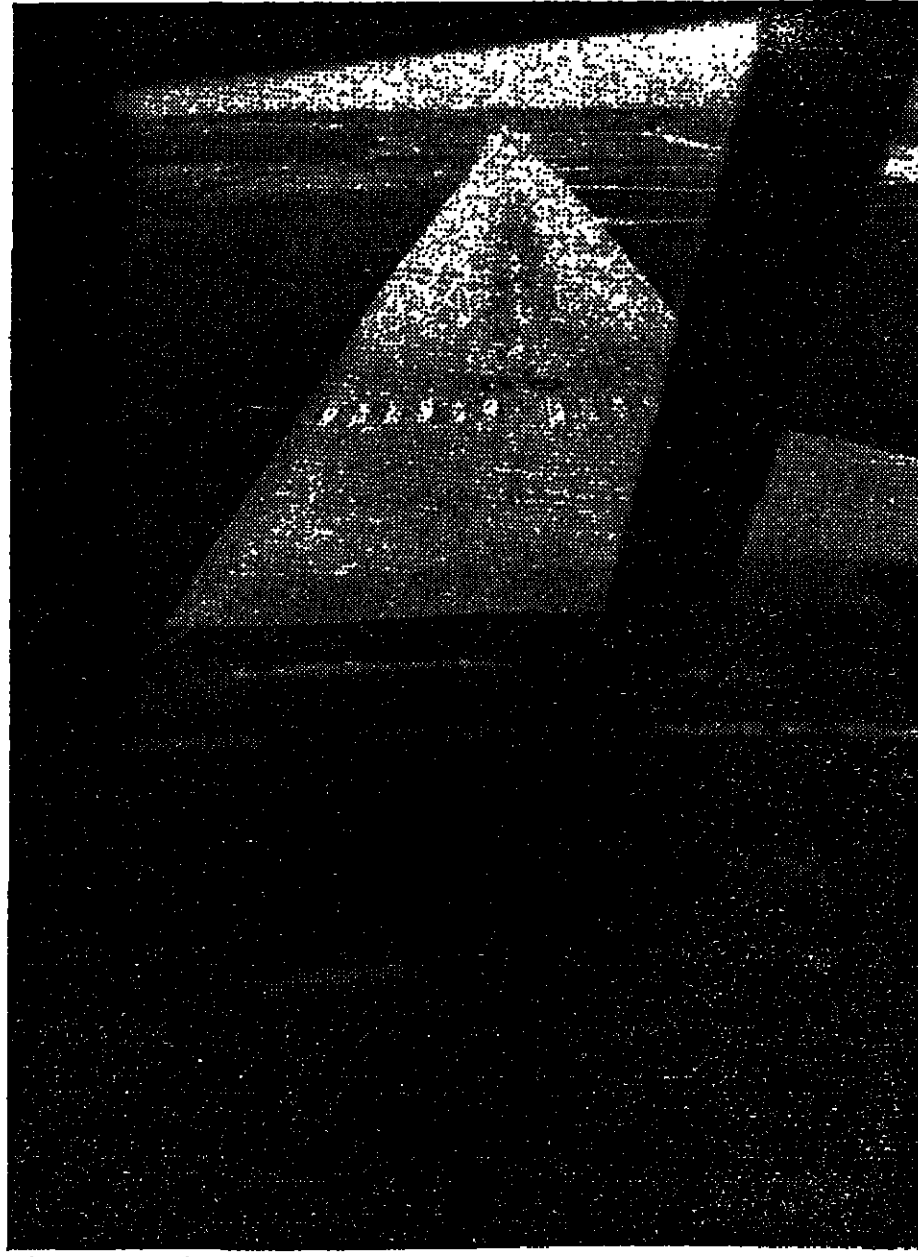
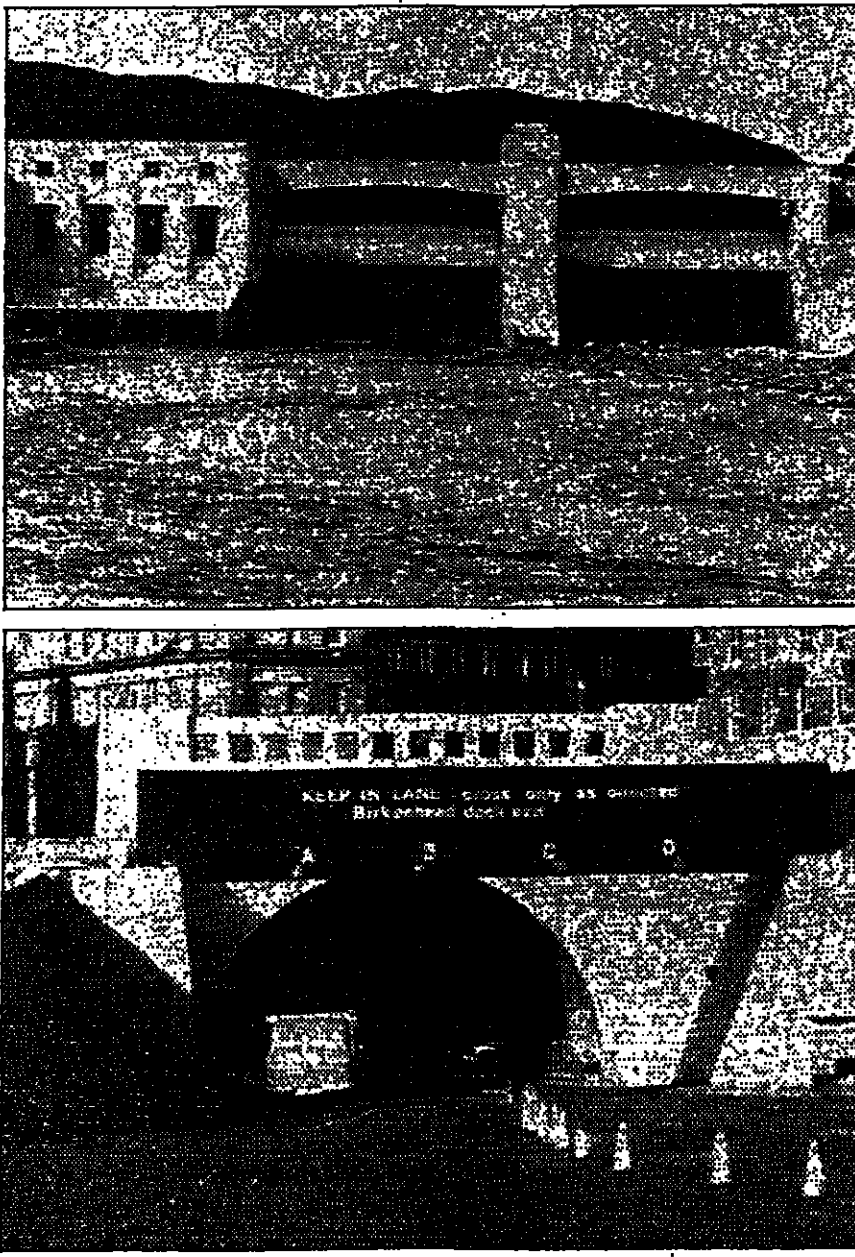
Police said most of the deaths occurred when debris was pulled off the road to get out of driving rainstorm and drove into the path of the tornado.

Two women were trapped in the debris of a restaurant and police had to break down a wall to free them. A car was stuck upright in the middle of a motel and several people were cut by debris. The deaths were attributed by the tornado.—AP.

Tokyo: A typhoon struck south-west Japan early yesterday killing six people and leaving 3,000 without homes. Coastguards reported that high waves swept a 33,344-ton oil tanker from its moorings and drove it ashore on an island near the port of Kure. Six Japanese hosts were also washed away.

Rail traffic was disrupted by floods and landslides. Four more people are missing and about 100 injured in the swathe of destruction.—Reuter.

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OVERSEAS

Death and destruction linger in León after rebel stronghold falls

From Stephen Downer
León, Nicaragua, Sept 17

Red Cross teams moved through Nicaragua's second city today burning bodies in the street. The battle of León was over.

For four or five days Marxist-Christian rebels had controlled the city, then the Nicaraguan Air Force started strafing the rebel stronghold with rockets and machine-gun fire in mid-week.

By Saturday, as dozens of buildings stood gutted, there was no more resistance. An estimated 1000 crack troops of the National Guard moved nervously down the narrow streets towards the centre; and the guerrillas removed the bandannas covering their faces and faded back into anonymity.

How many died in the battle, which was fought with most of the population trapped in their homes, no one knows. American television reporters said they saw nine corpses lying in the streets and there were reports of at least 30 more deaths.

Red Cross volunteers were cutting open bodies so they would not burst, pouring petrol inside, and setting fire to them. More dead were buried in shallow graves in back gardens.

The National Guard had turned back most people who tried to leave León before the siege began.

The 7,500-strong army's strategy since the uprising flared up at the end of August has been to avoid as much direct contact with the rebels as possible.

The guerrillas, equipped mainly with pistols, hunting rifles and shotguns, were no match for the guard's M16s, M16s, Israeli automatic rifles, tanks, armoured cars and aircraft.

The several thousand rebels are hardline members of the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) guerrilla organization, but in many towns and cities they have the support of most of the people, ranging from comfortable, middle-class bankers to dustmen.

Most of the unrest has been north of Managua, the capital.

However, national guardsmen have been under fire from rebels firing bazookas and machine-guns from Costa Rica, 86 miles south of Managua.

Costa Rica, reputedly one of the most democratic countries in the world, has no armed forces. It angered the Nicaraguan government by allowing the Soviet Union to open an embassy there several years ago.

The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry announced yesterday that it would be calling on the heads of the Costa Rican, Panamanian and Venezuelan diplomatic missions in Nicaragua to explain some attitudes of their governments which could have "serious repercussions in Nicaragua".

Costa Rica was leading a mediation initiative of Central American governments in the conflict in Nicaragua. Then the Nicaraguan National Guard said it caught 50 rebels crossing from Costa Rica into Nicaragua last week and chased them back over the border. The incident further strained relations between the two neighbours.

So far, President Somoza has ignored calls for a ceasefire from religious and opposition political groups in Nicaragua and by the United States Government.

However, some weeks ago, the State Department released \$6m in educational and nutritional aid, which had been held up for a year.

The Council of the National Clerics Conference of Nicaragua and the capital's Presbyterians Council of the arch-diocese of Managua this weekend wrote to President Carter urging him to "stop sending aid of any type to General Somoza's regime."

Guatemala City: General Edmundo Meneses Cantaredo, Nicaragua's Ambassador to Guatemala, was seriously wounded in a machine-gun attack here today.

Washington: The Organization of American States has voted to send a fact-finding mission to investigate border incidents between Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Reuter.

US satellite breaks up after 13 years

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Sept 17

Pegasus 1, an American research satellite launched 13 years ago, broke up over northern Angola early today as it reentered the Earth's atmosphere.

A spokesman for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) later told reporters that there had been no reports so far of anyone sighting burning parts of the space vehicle as it disintegrated.

The 23,000lb satellite was launched from Cape Kennedy in 1965 to study the distribution of space dust, or micrometeorites, near the Earth's surface. Its mission was completed when its radio transmitter was turned off in 1978 and it has since been orbiting the Earth aimlessly.

Nasa scientists who were tracking it said they expected any pieces which fell to Earth to be scattered over a corridor 125 miles wide and nearly 3,000 miles long. They said the likelihood of any debris causing damage was infinitesimal.

Colorado Springs: A spokesman for the National Air Defence Command said there was no apparent link between Pegasus 1 and reports of unidentified flying objects over New Mexico.



Narita violence avoided: Thousands of demonstrators, including these helmeted crowds, marched on Tokyo's new international airport yesterday and thousands of riot police were on duty in case of an attack after dark. The demonstrators first

attended a rally, pledging to continue their 100-day-old campaign to have the airport at Narita closed. The rally, unlike most in the past, was not violent. Aircraft left and arrived as usual at the airport which opened in May after years of opposition.—Reuter.

Cabinet reshuffle in Peru as 12 offer to resign

Lima, Sept 17.—Peru's military Government has announced that 12 of its 15 Cabinet ministers have handed in their resignations to enable President Francisco Morales Bermúdez to form a new Cabinet.

But only four resignations were accepted.

Those who did not offer to resign were the Ministers of the Air Force, Navy and War, all members of the ruling military junta.

The four resignations accepted were those from

General Otto Elíasperu (Education), Air Force General Oscar Davila (Health), Rear-Admiral Geronimo Cafferata (Housing) and Señor Gabriel Lanata (Commerce, Industry, Tourism and Integration).

The Health and Education Ministers recently faced widespread strikes with health care technicians and nurses staying out of work for two months and teachers protesting for 81 days, the longest teachers' strike in Peru's history.—Reuter and UPI.

Why Bukharin still waits for justice

By Richard Derry

More information is emerging about why the Soviet regime has not rehabilitated Nikolai Bukharin, an early colleague of Lenin and Stalin who was executed after a show trial in 1938.

Eurocommunism and others have been taking up his case recently, seeing him as a representative of communism with a relatively human face. The French have been dragging their heels because of the role which their own former leader, Maurice Thorez, played in opposing rehabilitation in 1956. Now it emerges that Bri-

tish Communists supported Thorez.

In the current issue of *Tribuna*, Dr Zhores Medvedev, the exiled Russian geneticist, describes a meeting of the Soviet party presidium some time after the crushing of the Hungarian uprising of 1956.

Among those present were not only Thorez but also Harry Pollitt, leader of the British Communist Party.

The meeting considered 20 cases, including those of Bukharin and Rykov, in which the Soviet Supreme Court recommended rehabilitation. Thorez argued against reha-

Poland's bishops urge end to censorship

From Sue Masterman
Vienna, Sept 17

Poland's Roman Catholic bishops have demanded that censorship in the country be abolished. The demand was made in an episcopal letter read in all Polish Roman Catholic churches today.

This is a far-reaching move, since the dissident movement in Poland is for most purposes synonymous with the Church. Both the pro-communist PAX publishing house and the independent ZNAK, both of which print church-sponsored papers, magazines and literature, are affected by the censor.

For PAX, censorship is mainly a formality. For ZNAK it is a question of existence. The Polish censor only examines a copy once it has been set in type and not a manuscript form. ZNAK publications have more than 50 per cent of their copy rejected, involving labour costs and publication delays.

In their episcopal letter, the bishops said that the citizens of a civilized country must be given the opportunity to state their opinion freely. They complained that those who criticised the state were harassed.

There is growing tension between the dissident movements in Poland and the Government.

Greece and Turkey try again to find compromise

From Mario Modiano
Athens, Sept 17

Greece and Turkey resume their efforts here tomorrow to devise a *modus vivendi* that would enable them to live as peaceful neighbours, even co-operating in support of common interests.

The dialogue which was initiated by the two Prime Ministers in Montreux last March is being pursued by the Secretaries-General of the foreign ministries, Mr Sukrus Elekbas, for Turkey, already in Athens at the head of the Turkish delegation, and Mr Vyrros Theodoropoulos for Greece.

During the next two days the two negotiators propose to discuss the Aegean air space dispute, the Aegean continental shelf and the possibility of a political agreement to codify the principles for good relations between the two countries.

Spectacular results are unlikely. However, if the constructive atmosphere that prevailed at the first meeting of the two Secretaries-General in Ankara last July, can be maintained, there should be some progress.

The idea of a document clarifying the basic rules in Greek-Turkish relations was Turkey's answer to the Greek Minister's proposal for a non-aggression pact. This was intended to put aside the mistrust which has impeded settlement of Greek-Turkish disputes.

Mr Karamanlis, the Greek Prime Minister, is due back in Athens tomorrow from a tour of the eastern Aegean islands that lie close to Turkey.

During the cruise, undertaken to bolster morale among the islanders, Mr Karamanlis said: "The Greek Government was trying to settle differences with Turkey peacefully and fairly as dictated by logic and the interests of the two peoples", by which, he added, he meant "solutions based on international law and international practice, not on political expediency".

Moscow warning on China given to Indian minister

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, Sept 17

Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee, India's Foreign Minister, has been sighted this weekend in Georgia after three days of "warm and friendly" talks with Soviet leaders in Moscow.

Before flying south he renewed an invitation to Mr Brezhnev to visit India, and suggested at a press conference that the Soviet leader was eager to accept.

Mr Vajpayee's three days of talks went well. He was invited here by the Soviet Government because the Russians are worried about growing links between India and China, and are anxious to revitalise the warm relationship they enjoyed with India during Mrs Gandhi's regime. The Russians see India as an important Asian counterweight to China.

Mr Vajpayee appears to have reassured them that India does not want to lessen its considerable economic and cultural ties with the Soviet Union.

He pleased his hosts by supporting the Soviet call for the removal of the American base on Diego Garcia island and the creation of a "zone of peace" in the Indian Ocean. He praised the Soviet rôle in India's development.

At the same time Mr Vajpayee has carefully avoided identifying himself with the explicitly anti-Chinese remarks made during official speeches. Mr Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, called for a "resolute rebuff" to the "great power hegemonistic policy" of the Peking leadership.

In reply Mr Vajpayee would go only as far as saying it was a "tragedy" that Vietnam had again become a theatre of the policy of tension and conflicts.

Though the Russians undoubtedly impressed on him the dangers of drawing too close to China, Mr Vajpayee's visit here has done nothing to make a future visit to Peking more difficult.

Carter policy 'strengthening Soviet regime'

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Sept 17

The Soviet dissident writer Alexander Zinoviev says in an interview published today that it is "illusory" to believe that President Carter's human rights campaign has in any way weakened the Soviet regime.

According to the interview, published in *Soviet Union*, Zinoviev believes that the acts of clemency prompted by the campaign in fact serve to strengthen the regime. At the same time he considers that on the level of the struggle of ideas the promotion of human rights serves to raise the question of humanism and liberty in the Soviet Union, which in turn is very effective.

What I am trying to show above all is that we must not be threatened by death, more exactly he is threatened to be turned into a "new man", that is to say a subservient self-satisfied creature, in other words a rat.

Karpov's flawless defence keeps challenger at bay

From Harry Golombek
Baguio, Philippines, Sept 17

Playing energetically and skilfully, Viktor Korchnoi defended perfectly. Some experts criticised his twenty-seventh move as risky, but it appeared absolutely correct to me.

The crisis came on white's thirty-second move, when it seemed Korchnoi could have forced a win by 32.RxR, R33.R-Kxch, K-K2 34.R(Kx6) Kx8, but then black could have played 34...P-R4 35.RxR, Q-K4 and would himself have had the advantage.

The Queen's Gambit opening followed the ninth game until black's thirteenth move when Karpov played Q-K3 instead of Q-Q1. Both players seemed fully prepared for this variation, and they carried out these moves in five minutes.

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Instead, Korchnoi rightly chose a line that led to a draw in another 10 moves. Immediately after the game Korchnoi said he had missed a winning line on his thirty-eighth move when he had in some time trouble. He thought he should have played K-B2, but later analysis showed that this, too, led to a draw.

The score still stands at 4-2 in Karpov's favour.

Twenty-third game. White: Korchnoi, black: Karpov. Queen's Gambit Declined.

1 P-QB4 K-K3
2 P-QB3 P-Q4
3 N-B3 P-Q4
4 P-Q4 Q-Q4
5 Q-Q4 P-Q4
6 P-Q4 P-Q4
7 P-Q4 P-Q4
8 P-Q4 P-Q4
9 P-Q4 P-Q4
10 P-Q4 P-Q4
11 P-Q4 P-Q4
12 P-Q4 P-Q4
13 P-Q4 P-Q4
14 P-Q4 P-Q4
15 P-Q4 P-Q4
16 P-Q4 P-Q4
17 P-Q4 P-Q4
18 P-Q4 P-Q4
19 P-Q4 P-Q4
20 P-Q4 P-Q4
21 P-Q4 P-Q4
22 P-Q4 P-Q4
23 P-Q4 P-Q4
24 P-Q4 P-Q4
25 P-Q4 P-Q4
26 P-Q4 P-Q4
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Position after 31 moves

Nixon envoy in Berlin talks

From Our Correspondent
Berlin, Sept 17

Mr Kenneth Rush, who served as United States Ambassador in Bonn under President Nixon, is going to Bonn-Berlin tomorrow where he is expected to discuss East-West differences on Berlin with Mr Pyotr Abramov, Soviet Ambassador to East Germany. His visit is being termed a

private one, but it is understood that he will be accompanied by two State Department officials specialising in Berlin and German questions. The Soviet Union has been complaining strongly recently about alleged violations of the quadripartite agreement on Berlin, which was signed by Mr Rush and Mr Abramov in 1971.

Prisoners of conscience

By Clifford Longley

A not uncommon Soviet technique for silencing opponents is to arrest them, working by one another, and then to release them with "paralytic" drugs, to leave them in a state of shock. This appears to have happened to Mr Petro Vins, member of the Ukrainian group for monitoring the Helsinki agreement, and son of the Rev George Vins, a Baptist pastor frequently jailed in the past. It appears that the authorities have been looking for a means of detaining him for some time.

Last December he was arrested at Kiev railway station and imprisoned for 15 days for insubordination to the police. The police told his mother that they had beaten him because he refused to be searched without a warrant. He refused to work in jail, as a protest, and was detained for a further 15 days.

In February he was arrested again and he told his mother that he was being charged with hooliganism. Later it emerged that the charge was to be that he had systematically engaged in vagrancy or begging. He is liable to a year's imprisonment, and as far as is known, his trial has not yet taken place.

Mr Vins is not fitted to manual work because of stomach surgery he underwent some years ago.

According to Soviet law, any person who lives for more than four months a year on unearned income "while shirking socially useful labour" is guilty of vagrancy.

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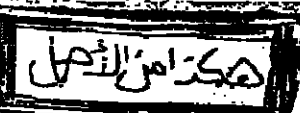
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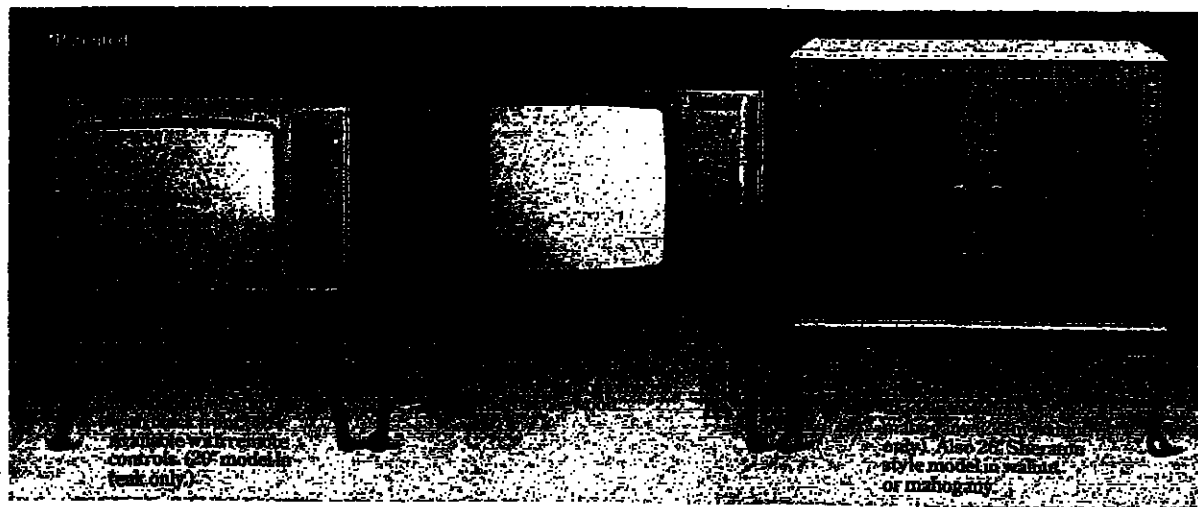
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Geoffrey Smith

Liberals look for another door to open

Can there really be much of a role for a third party in British politics? Beneath all the Thorpe turmoil that is the question bedevilling the Liberals. In due course—though nobody can be sure how soon—the Thorpe affair will pass away. In the meantime it will continue to cause immense embarrassment, and probably do much damage to the party. But it will not deprive the Liberals of a role—if they have one. Do they?

For years they have hovered on the fringes of British politics, halfway between a useful influence and a pleasant joke. They have contributed constructive ideas. They have made sensible comments, as well as a few idiotic ones. But as a general rule they have not had the power to be more than a bunch of political commentators with seats in Parliament. That may be of more value than is sometimes supposed by more cynical observers: the House of Commons is far too much dominated as it is by ritual tournaments between the two main parties.

But it is not surprising that such a limited role does not satisfy the politicians concerned. For years the thinking of more serious Liberals has centred round the question of how they could become more than a small and somewhat incongruous combination of protest party and occasional think-tank. Perhaps they cannot. They give the impression of a small group of people shut together in a room with a number of closed doors. They indulge in long and earnest debate as to which of the doors to try first. It does not matter: all are locked. But they are right to try them each in turn.

The Lib-Lab pact was one of the doors. It was much more for them than a means of postponing an election at an awkward moment, or even of putting Liberal politics into practice. It was an attempt to break the existing mould of British politics. There are three ways in which this might be done. The Liberals might attract so much support from the electorate, either as a protest party or a moderating influence, that the other parties would regularly be forced to take notice of them. If the Liberals did well enough, hung Parliaments would be more than an occasional aberration. Liberals could expect to be in and out of coalitions in which they could exercise substantial power; or at least they would be bringing powerful pressure to bear on minority governments.

The Liberals did well as essentially a protest party in the 1974 elections, but not well enough for this purpose. The pact was intended to project the Liberals as a moderating force. The trouble was that their influence was not seen to be effective, partly one suspects, because there are not enough of them in the Commons for them to seem credible in this role—and the very idea of a moderating force was too strange and sophisticated a concept to be readily appreciated by the electorate. If the Liberals are ever to succeed in breaking the mould of British politics in this way they will need to have more MPs elected

consistently, not just in a freak election—whereas their problem at the moment is how to have even a handful in the next Parliament.

The second way in which the mould might be broken is by forming a new party of the centre, the first prerequisite of which would be a split in the Labour Party. The pact was intended to help this purpose along as well. The more closely the Liberals were seen to be cooperating with Labour's right-wing leadership, it was reasoned, the more outraged would the left become. But the Labour Party has not obliged, and such a split does not now seem at all likely.

So the Liberals have been thrown back on the third possibility: electoral reform, the cause which has been dear to their hearts for so long. There is an air of desperation about what they are now saying. Having failed to achieve any advance towards proportional representation on any front during the pact, they are now proposing to insist upon cast-iron commitments on electoral reform as their terms for coming to an arrangement with another party if they hold the balance in another hung Parliament.

In some ways this must seem pretty academic. On present form there is little chance of the Liberals being strong enough to hold the balance themselves or of either of the main parties being prepared to concede proportional representation in the next Parliament. But the point is worth pursuing partly because British political opinion is so volatile nowadays and partly because the way in which a constitutional change of this magnitude ought to be introduced is of consequence to more than Liberals.

The idea of simply presenting a Bill in the first session is ridiculous. It would be monstrous to seek to push through such a measure without more preparation and consultation. The proposal for an early referendum on the principle is on the face of it more attractive. But the electorate would be asked to judge between the merits of the existing system and a general notion, not a precise alternative. Nobody could be sure what particular type of proportional representation would be introduced if there was a majority for reform. The place for a referendum would be to endorse or reject a new system that had been initially approved by Parliament.

The best method of proceeding was referred to mostly in private conversation with prominent Liberals at Southampton. This would be to have a Royal Commission. The disadvantage for Liberals is that it would be slower with no guarantee of legislation within a single Parliament. It would simply set a process in motion with no assurance of legislation at all unless there was sufficient support from other parties. But that would be required anyway if the legitimacy of Parliament was not to be undermined. A constitutional change of this sort should not be brought about simply by a smash and grab raid by a minor party. If the Liberals appreciate this they might stand a better chance of getting something done some time.

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Lord Chalfont

This poisonous vendetta against the Shah



Riots in Teheran against martial law: can the Shah's concessions placate his most powerful enemies?

Anyone who had to rely for his information about world affairs on the progressive-radical standard bearers of the BBC or on the kind of cardboard rantback featured in Granada Television's *What the Papers Say* last Thursday, might be forgiven for believing that what is happening in Iran is a spontaneous uprising of an oppressed people against a brutal and corrupt dictatorship.

Before this version of events passes into the mythology of bleeding hearts, it might be useful to spell out a few facts for those who wish to make a more considered judgment. Instead of reacting with knee-jerk reflexes to such convenient trigger words as Savak and the Peacock Throne, let us instead spend a few minutes examining the nature and record of the present regime, the characteristics of the rebellion against it, and the importance of the crisis not only for Iran, but for the rest of the world as well.

It is, of course, rare for an absolute ruler to use his power for the benefit of his people. Yet this, as Mr Callaghan seems to have recognized in sending a message to the Shah encouraging him to persist with his policies of liberalization and economic development, is very largely what has been happening for the past 15 years in Iran. In concentrating on the harsh disciplines of a society whose leaders insist that the imperatives of a comprehensive industrial revolution must for the moment take precedence over the luxuries of parliamentary democracy on the Westminster pattern, the critics of the Shah have consistently overlooked the many improvements that have taken place in the standard of living of the Iranian people under the severe but dynamic leadership of the Pahlavi dynasty.

I would suggest to Mr Frank Allaun, who has lost no time in con-

demaing the Prime Minister's action, that Mr Callaghan and his Foreign Secretary have understood the real dangers of the Iranian crisis—dangers which, in the long run, threaten the jobs and living standards of the people of this country as well as those of the people of Iran.

Perhaps I should begin by correcting an impression which originated in a fanciful gossip column piece about three years ago and which, in the absence of any comment from me at the time, is now widely accepted as fact. I am not either an adviser or an intimate friend of the Shah. I have made a reasonably detailed study of his regime and his country, in the course of which I have made frequent visits to Iran and acquired the kind of first hand experience which is regarded as such a paralyzing disadvantage by some of the Shah's more strident critics.

It is upon this experience that I base the view that the present regime has brought considerable benefits to the people of Iran. In the somewhat grandiloquently styled Revolution of the Shah and the People there have been substantial achievements in the fields of medicine and education (notably in the determined attack on mass illiteracy); there has been radical and far-reaching reform of the status of women in society; has been dramatically improved.

In pursuit of these aims, and in an attempt to transform an ancient feudal culture into a modern industrial society, the Shah has exercised virtually absolute power. Democracy in the western liberal sense of the word does not exist in Iran. There is only one official political party, and the government is in effect little more than an instrument for implementing the Shah's policies and decisions. The press, although nominally free, is largely compliant and uncritical.

This highly centralized and autocratic power structure is sustained

by a powerful security apparatus, including the armed forces, the police and the state security organization widely known as Savak—the secret police. Sporadic protests against the regime have usually been promptly and ruthlessly suppressed and no one in Iran pretends that this has always been done without the kind of brutality and injustice which is familiar in authoritarian and totalitarian regimes throughout the world.

The situation has been complicated, and in some respects exacerbated, by the massive wealth which has poured into the country since the increase in world oil prices. Some of this money has been frittered away in grandiose prestige projects or wasted by inefficient planning before the Shah and his advisers had fully grasped the intricacies of their industrial revolution.

Large amounts of it found its way into the fibre glass attached cases of thousands of insatiable agents, fixers and contact men—entrepreneurial parasites now leaving Iran to live on rapidly acquired fortunes in sun-baked bank accounts. Very little of the oil wealth has yet filtered down to where it might directly affect the living standards of the poorest Iranians and there have been, inevitably, bitter protests about corruption in high places.

The Shah recognized both the value of some of these protests and the long term dangers which they posed to his policies. He visited stern retribution in some of the more blatant cases of corruption, and under growing pressure, began to institute a modest programme of political "liberalization" culminating in his promise last month to hold free elections next June.

The results were predictable. The opposition on the left began to press for more rapid and more radical reforms, suggesting that no elections could be described as free unless

they were accompanied by full freedom of action for organized opposition parties (including of course the Communist Party, which is still an illegal organization in Iran).

The most violent reaction, however, came from the other end of the political spectrum—from the right-wing mullahs, the influential leaders of the Shi'a Muslim faith to which most Iranians belong. Their complaint was that liberalization was going too far and too fast. The "religious" riots rapidly developed into a full-scale uprising and to the imposition of martial law.

Anyone who really believes that these events were no more than the spontaneous outburst of a disillusioned people has clearly not observed them at first hand. The presence at the larger demonstrations of stewards on motor-cycles and carefully stocked refreshment points is somehow inconsistent with the image of an ad hoc gathering; and the impressive spectacle of hundreds of people putting flowers in the barrels of soldiers' rifles kisses some of its impact if it is realized that such behaviour is simply not characteristic of Muslim manners and customs—especially among the Moslem women who were present in such surprisingly large numbers.

Indeed, the whole flavour and organization of the manifestations in Teheran had much more in common with the ritual left wing "demos" of the West than with the righteous indignation of an Islamic holy war.

Whatever may have been the origins of the present unrest, it is clear that nothing can ever be the same again in Iran. Martial law, however, surprisingly enforced a certain degree of order and discipline. The Shah recognizes clearly that the only hope of a return to any kind of real stability lies in very substantial concessions across the whole political front.

These will inevitably involve a considerable dilution of his own personal power and the emergence of more democratic forms of government; they will have to take some account of the demands of the mullahs for the more direct involvement of Islam in the decision making processes of government; and the abandonment of some of the more blatantly offensive imports from western social and cultural mores.

If these concessions prove to be enough to placate the Shah's most powerful enemies, the outcome of the present crisis might, after all, be a happy one.

If under something resembling a constitutional monarchy, the Shah's programmes of reform and rapid industrialization can be resumed; and if the susceptibilities of the religious leaders can be catered for without a return to some of the more reactionary practices of the traditional Shi'a faith, the revolution of the Shah and the people may still be achieved.

If, however, the Shah fails, no one should be allowed to conceal what his failure will mean. It will be a tragedy not only for the people of Iran. Iranian oil is vital to the prosperity and security of the West. Iranian military strength is a crucial factor in the balance of power in the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean.

If Iran becomes a centre of instability and persistent tension, or if, even worse, it falls under the influence of enemies of the West we shall suffer the consequences in every aspect of our lives—in our standard of living, our levels of unemployment, and in the longer term the pressure of our own political and economic systems. It is in the national interest, in mind the next time the "radicals" begin to "dispute" that special Iranian oil.

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A tough business, getting the festival on the road

Anyone taking over such a formidable artistic event as the Edinburgh Festival is presented with an intimidating level of nervousness and hope about his future plans. According to some critics, Peter Diamond, the retiring director, over-indulged the operatic and orchestral side. John Drummond, his successor, is rumoured to be an addict of the dance and that orchestral content can expect to receive what might be called a brutal coup-de-ballet in future programmes.

As Mr Drummond discovered when he took over and opened an entirely blank diary for next year's festival, expediency more than predilection for particular forms of art dictates the shape and content of any festival the size of Edinburgh's. For all the talk about artistic balance, the need for a new

emphasis and the sensitivity of one performer over another, organizing a festival is more concerned with the insensitive business of handling dates and ensuring a particular artist will be in Edinburgh on a particular evening and not Hawaii, and if he cannot be there then who can?

When raw nerves are accompanied by the risk of airline strikes, sore throats, broken bones, strained muscles, mislaid luggage, wrongly directed scenery and the limit of other troubles than can fall around the ears of a festival director the wonder must be that anything of fine artistic merit happens at all.

People who said they wanted to see change were quite hard to pin down and so much about the festival worked splendidly as it was. Big names and famous orchestras would remain crucial

and such Edinburgh traditions as the morning chamber concert were not to be tinkered with.

The same big names recur and that is understandable because they are the finest performers, some of whom appeared in Edinburgh when they were very small names. Edinburgh will remain a mixture of the best and the best promising," said Mr Drummond.

An earlier date for the festival had been considered so that it did not clash with the start of the autumn school term but nothing definite had been agreed. There were more important issues to settle, for example how to follow Peter Diamond's dazzling departure. "It is a scary thing to take on, and beyond the purely artistic side there is the question of future financing."

The central government

grants via the Scottish Arts Council may grow but not greatly; local authority assistance was at a generous level and Mr Drummond had no intention of falling out with the city fathers by demanding more. Ticket prices could not be pushed too hard, so the only remaining source of income was commercial sponsorship, which could be done in a dignified way and to the advantage of both the festival and the sponsor.

"That is the main way to secure the future of the festival and assist the artist who wants to bring his family to a good concert and is puzzled by the price of a decent ticket," he said. "Also I would hope to end the notion that the future lies with the Fringe because the festival is old and boring and the Fringe is young and lively. That is nonsense; it has to be a partner-

ship because we share much of the same audience and everyone should remember that the musicians of the whole festival are in it as well as the Diamond. The festival is a man who believes the official festival has a divine right to rule. More than that, Mr Drummond believed that while the festival might have helped Scottish Opera, the Scottish Chamber Orchestra and the Scottish Baroque Ensemble in the early years, their standard had not risen to such an extent that the festival must now exist to help them and take careful note of what they were providing the rest of the year at a much cheaper price than the festival.

The key point to decide is the content of the programme. The producer has to be right or there is no point worrying about the rest."

The ancient Edinburgh reputation for high quality music does not seem to have faded as the festival grows. The festival is a man who believes the official festival has a divine right to rule. More than that, Mr Drummond believed that while the festival might have helped Scottish Opera, the Scottish Chamber Orchestra and the Scottish Baroque Ensemble in the early years, their standard had not risen to such an extent that the festival must now exist to help them and take careful note of what they were providing the rest of the year at a much cheaper price than the festival.

Judging by the record the keen spirit of theatre-going, so alive during the festival, does not yet extend much beyond it.

Ronald Faux

LEAPMAN IN AMERICA



If you market a game called "The Next War" you expect to be accused of doom-watching or scare-mongering or generally trying to stir things up. When this is put to him, Jim Dunnigan, one of the three inventors of the game, admits (I was going to say he admits dismally, but we must get these silly puns out of our heads at the start, so he simply admits).

"I don't necessarily think it's going to happen. But it's a catchy title."

All the same, those Nato and Warsaw Pact divisions in central Europe are there for something. The new game, the latest of about 200 war games which Dunnigan's firm is marketing, has the rival armies deployed with as much accuracy as is feasible, and postulates what will happen to them if war breaks out.

War gamers are not the only people undertaking such simulations. Planners in the Pentagon do it all the time, and have occasionally asked Dunnigan for help. He believes that his games, which take more account of human factors than do the computerized models at the Defence Department, can be nearer to reality, as well as being cheaper and less time-consuming.

"The Next War" will take place in Germany and the surrounding nations (Dunnigan does not predict that there will be no intervening wars at all, but he believes that any war in southern Africa or the

Middle East will be so local as not to count in the cosmic reckoning).

It begins, according to the game with a Soviet attack across the Iron Curtain. There are three ways in which this could happen, and the outcome of the initial fighting depends on which form of attack the Soviet player chooses.

The first is the sudden surprise attack, with little or no advance preparation which can be monitored by the Nato allies. Although this gives the Warsaw Pact the advantage of surprise, they forfeit the opportunity of building up their forces above the roughly six-to-five advantage they regularly enjoy.

The other two forms of aggression would enable them to do this. One possibility is that their attack would be an extension of their summer manoeuvres which regularly bring their forces down to the West German border. This time, they would just stop, and march on over.

This would give them a greater numerical advantage, but the Americans have taken to policing the western side of the border extra alertly at spring manoeuvre time, so they would not be caught completely off guard.

In the third game plan, the Warsaw Pact attack would come as the climax to weeks or even months of growing tension in central Europe. Though abandoning the element of

surprise, the Russians would have been able to build up the Warsaw Pact forces during the pre-attack period to a level of greater superiority over the West, because their troop reserves are larger.

Dunnigan and his collaborators conclude that, even in the event of an absolute surprise attack, the United States Seventh Army, which bears the brunt of Germany's defence, cannot be overrun in the first week. The Russians' initial drive would be halted about 60 miles inside West Germany, around Marburg and Gießen.

There is so much comforting news though, for the British, American and French garrisons in West Berlin. They would be wiped out in between two and five days, unless reinforced before battle commenced. They would, however, inflict heavy casualties on the Warsaw Pact attackers before succumbing.

Scant hope, too, for Hamburg. West Germany's main port, which cannot be adequately defended, is for Denmark, which will fall within six days. The Warsaw Pact moves will quickly win control of the Baltic.

The best chance for Nato, according to the game planners, is to counterattack quickly, going for vulnerable Soviet supply lines. They should combine this with subversion in countries like East Germany and Czechoslovakia, trying to encourage underground movements opposed to Soviet domination.

Then there is the question of nuclear weapons. "They can be used, but they're discouraged. The Nato countries would be the first to use them only if they were doing very badly."

"Whoever is losing will use them," he said. The result of the use of nuclear weapons

would be to make both sides spend their missiles quickly, so as to offer a less obvious target. This would reduce the chance of any decisive result, because neither side would be able to concentrate enough weapons to achieve a breakthrough. That could encourage the use of strategic nuclear weapons. "And that's the holocaust city," Dunnigan.

"I asked him why, in all his game evenings, it is always the Russians who strike first. "There's no point in Nato attacking," he replied. "They're outnumbered three to one. Nobody's that enthusiastic about dying for the defence of western Europe."

But say Russia's satellites get restless. Then the Russians would have more incentive to start something and go "war". For Dunnigan and his colleagues, the game represents new ground in that it is based on actual troop deployments as of now. Most of their other games are either historical or futuristic.

The one most like "The Next War" is called "Objective Moscow" and is set a few years hence. "With that one, we take liberties with history," Dunnigan admitted. It is based on the hypothesis of an internal uprising in the Warsaw Pact countries which encourages Nato to intervene.

his games are used by people in the Pentagon as tools for training. "They can be used, but they're discouraged. The Nato countries would be the first to use them only if they were doing very badly."

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Western Australia

Industrial growth is keenest need

Desmond Quigley

these 843,800 live in Perth. Given the size of the population and the high wage economy, Western Australia needs capital intensive industry, and the development of new projects if it is not to avoid the effects of the continuing world recession.

The controversy over the development of the Jarrah fields, the destruction of the forests, salinity levels of the water table, or the fear that the energy intensive alumina process will push the state into going for nuclear power much earlier than would otherwise be necessary. The debate goes to the roots of the philosophy of the development of the state.

The environmentalists are articulate and, despite the official facade to the contrary, are taken seriously by the Government after notable successes of the Australian uranium debate.

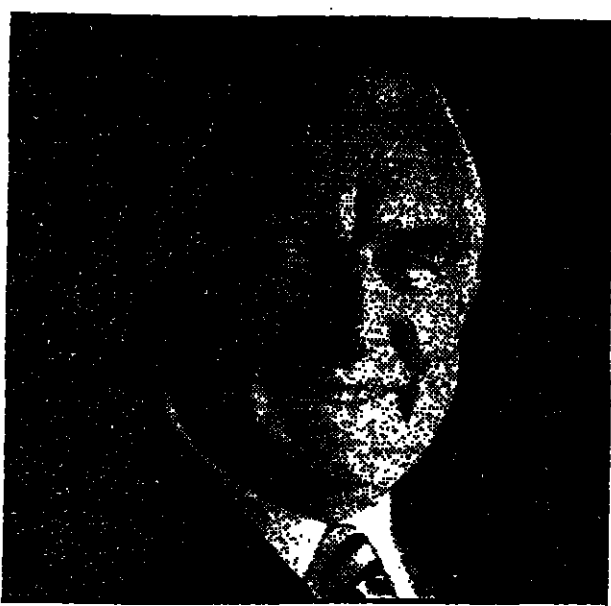
They claim to favour labour intensive industry which would provide employment and produce goods rather than keep Western Australia as a huge quarry for the rest of the world.

However, the Liberal Government's policy is that large-scale mining projects should come first and that the necessary downstream industry will follow.

Mr. Andrew Menzies, Minister for Industrial Development, Mines, Fuel and Energy, said: "Our economy is resource-based. The bulk of our industry serves the mining industry. It is logical because the domestic market is too small. We were quite successful in developing our industry on the 'gas theory'. What does the mining industry need, how sophisticated is it and how capital intensive is it?"

"We have a policy as a state Government of having agreements with the mining companies which states what their rights are and what their obligations are. Each of these agreements has a clause which specifies some value added. Some of the early agreements might have been naive, but we have learnt."

"Downstream activity is

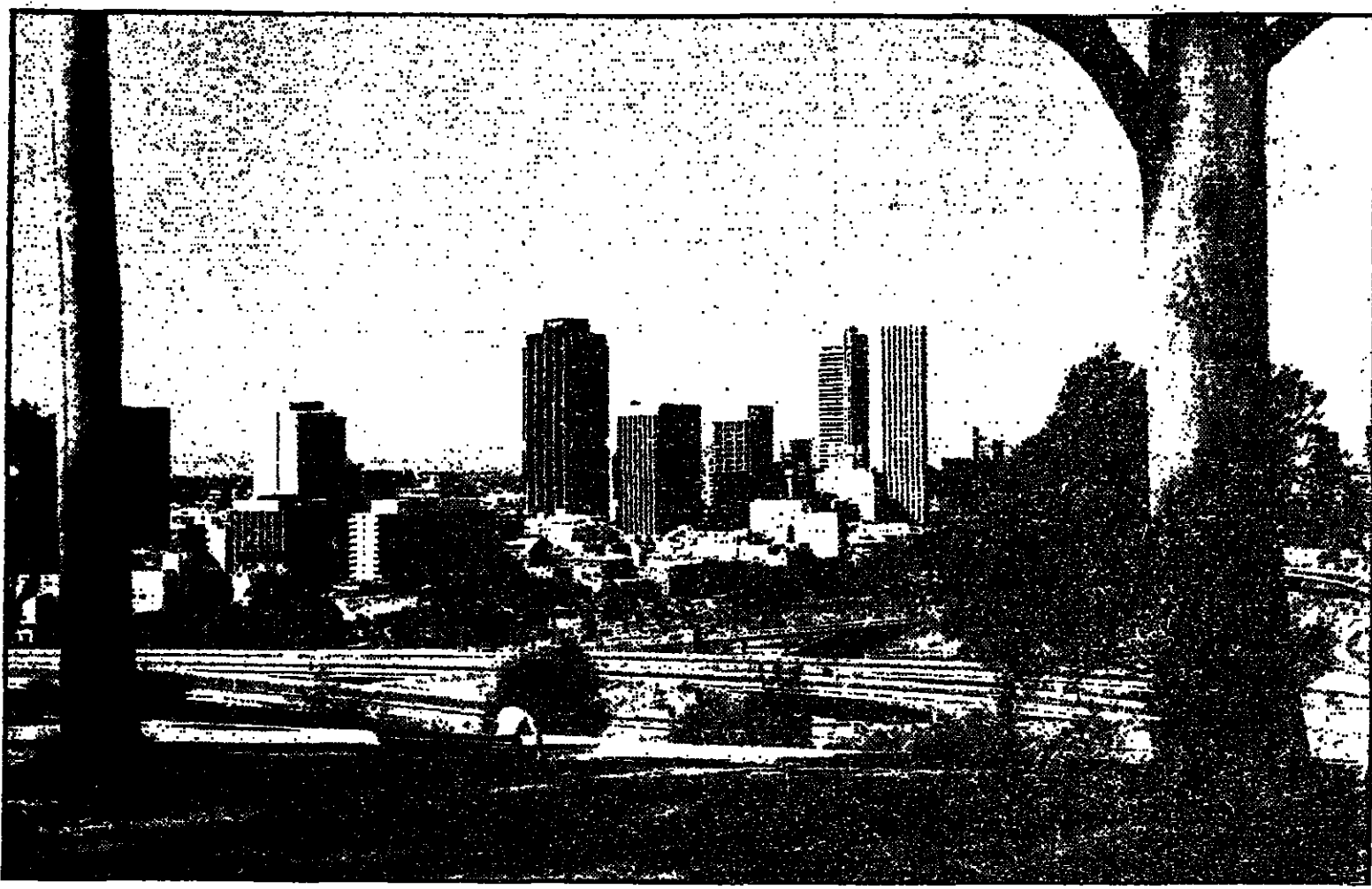


Sir Charles Court, the Premier: leader of vision.

only going to the secondary stage, not to fabrication, because that is too labour intensive. Once companies have a positive cash flow they have to plough back money. We have had this policy for 15 years, but the federal Government is only just getting round to it."

An indefinable element in the debate is the fact that Western Australia has had it good for many years. Added to the fine climate—at least in Perth where the bulk of the population lives—has been a high standard of living. The state has been fairly protected from the international recession, so a feeling of contentment has pervaded the debate. This year, however, will undoubtedly be tougher: the crisis in the steel industry has led to the Japanese cutting back drastically on their iron ore offtake while also securing price reductions.

But if the environmentalists are vocal and organized, they have a formidable opponent in Sir Charles Court, the Premier of Western Australia for the past four and a half years. It is not just as a politician that Sir Charles is formidable: the present development of the state is largely a product of his vision.



The business area of Perth, the state capital.

Charade of the money-seekers

by Douglas Aiton

Wales and Tasmania are two conservative parties way the states have viewed proclaiming a new federal Government. Mr. Whitlam, for all his centralism, poured millions of dollars into long-neglected state works and services. Its principal justification is but the conservative states a philosophical one. It aims still objected to what they regard as encroachments on their rights and responsibilities. They complained, but spent the money.

Those who agree with the present Liberal Government in Canberra find plenty of pure has displayed a distinctly geographical terms. From ruthless attitude towards Sydney to Melbourne, for the states, cutting back on example, is about as far as these funds, and again the states are complaining.

More specifically, from Canberra to Perth, the states will receive only an overall 5.1 per cent increase in federal funds, on which they depend for two thirds of their budgets. With inflation object to decisions being expected to run at more than 7 per cent, this represents a cut of about 2 per cent in many services.

Traditionally, the Australian Labour Party has been inclined towards a centralist policy, limiting the powers of the state and gradually transferring more control to Canberra. The Liberal and Country parties have resisted this.

The Whitlam government of 1972-75 was regarded as being particularly centralist in outlook and led to the

hint of hypocrisy about the construction industry.

Mr. Rupert Hamer of Victoria forecast that the cost would lead to a further decline in employment opportunities... and so on. Perhaps this year the premise were even more hostile than usual, but the story was familiar.

Mr. Malcolm Fraser's "new federalism" was expounded in June at the Premiers' Conference, a tough towards the states although it does hand back to them some income tax power, which the states have always claimed they need. Basically, Mr. Fraser wants to hand over more responsibility to the states and cut back federal expenditure by forcing the states to raise more of their own money.

It is too early to judge if the "new federalism" is sound in concept, but one thing is certain: whatever the federal Government decides on behalf of the states, the state governments will resist.

Western Australia has the best case for objection. Always forgotten, for ever isolated, it is now showing the fastest growth rate and owns all the minerals, and Canberra, it says, now notices it. Why should it respond?



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Having forced the state's development, Sir Charles is the most well-known state premier outside Australia and makes frequent trips to the banking and industrial capitals of the world. And yet, within Australia, he is, ironically, the least-known premier with the possible exception of the Premier of Tasmania.

It is this dichotomy that is an aspect of Western Australia. Western Australians complain of how ill served they are by Canberra, of how neglected they are, and of how the federal Government takes more than its fair share of the cake. With vast tracts of inhospitable land separating the western and eastern seaboard, the west believes that the east is highly insular, looking only to its own interests.

As any Western Australian will point out at the drop of a hat, with only 8.5 per cent of the population the state produces 22 per cent of the country's export earnings.

And yet this has bred an inverse isolationism as regards the rest of Australia with slights about the easterners. Recently there was a furore when work on a Western Australian television commercial was given to an eastern company.

Western Australia looks outward to the Indian Ocean and to Japan rather than across the country to Sydney and Melbourne. This is only partly the result of the high cost of internal air travel, which makes holidays in Singapore or Hongkong far more attractive than going to the other side of the country.

A more nationalistic feeling is only really stirred during political scandals, as was evinced during the recent Whiters scandal when the local newspapers carried long articles about the threat to Mr. Malcolm Fraser's position as Australia's Premier.

But by and large the local press is parochial. A recent headline in a local newspaper ran: 'W. Cardinal could be Pope. Below in smaller type, it continued: But Italians favoured.'

One of the sternest critics of the federal Government is Sir Charles himself who readily warms to the theme that the federal Government is manipulated by the Canberra bureaucrats. But his attitude has another dimension.

Sir Charles believes that the only natural bulwark against another socialist government in Canberra is to return to a "true" federal system.

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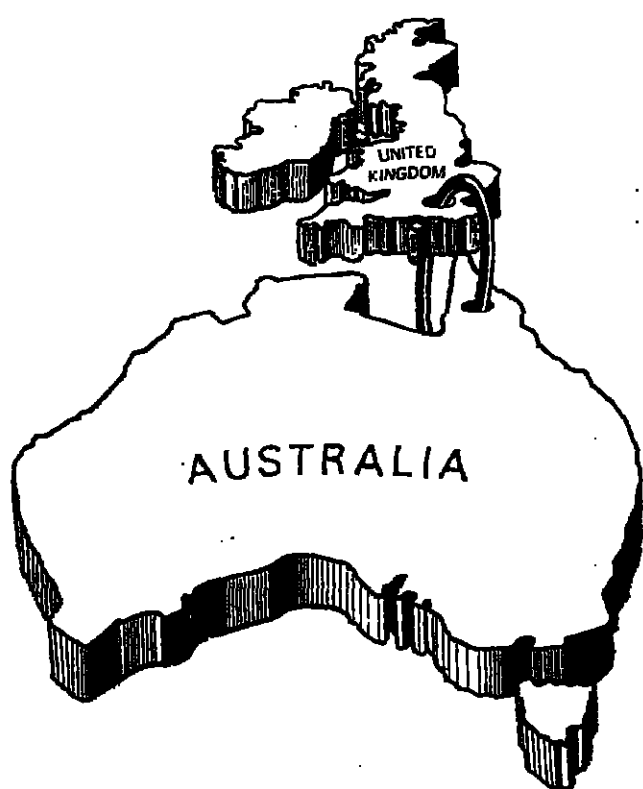
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Economy based on metal but state hungry for energy

by Desmond Quigley

Primary industries dominate the Western Australian economy, with base metal mining by far the most important. In the 1976-77 financial year, metallic ores and scrap accounted for more than a third of the state's total exports of \$2,891m, while total raw materials (including agricultural products) accounted for more than \$2,500m.

Much of the rest of the state's industry is aimed at supporting this huge earnings base, but given the state's small population and lack of advanced research and development, the same base sucks in a large quantity of imports. With mining enterprises highly capital intensive, machinery and transport accounted for more than a third of the state's total of \$2,471m imports in the same period (agriculture can also be heavily capital intensive: on some of the big sheep

farms, sporter aircraft and helicopters are the mode of transport for the "shepherds").

But while the extractive industries are so vitally important to the economy, the state is energy hungry and uneasy about its reliance on imports: it has less than 3 per cent of total Australian energy resources.

In the 1976-77 financial year imports of petroleum and petroleum products, at \$362m, were the single largest import item by value, although the mineral fuel and lubricant group trailed behind the machinery and transport section in total terms.

During the 1960s, Western Australia experienced a rapid increase in power demand, with an annual increase of 16 to 17 per cent. It is now back to about 8 per cent a year, but the state has not forgotten the effect of the Opec price rise, nor the fact that it has limited coal reserves. So the hunt has been on for indigenous energy sources.

Western Mining's Yeelrie uranium deposit is likely to come on stream between 1982 and 1984. However, Dr Robert Booth, assistant commissioner, engineering, at the State Energy Commission, considers that nuclear power is a long way in the future. There will not be a nuclear power station before 1995 at the earliest.

By comparison with some of the other states, Western Australia's coal reserves are small, although there is exploration north of Perth. But the power station on the Collie coalfield is being extended and the field should produce enough coal for 10 years.

Oil is being sought in the Exmouth Gulf and there are

plans to spend \$100m a year over the next four years on exploration. The first permits were issued last year and the first well is due to go down later this year.

However, this is a long-range project, since the search is concentrated in deep waters and the technology has not been invented to exploit any commercial reserves that might be found.

The most important energy venture is the natural gas project being run by Woodside Petroleum and including such partners as BHP, Shell and BP on the north-west continental shelf. But the significance of the venture is far more than another energy source.

It could reduce the state's dependence on imported petroleum products from 67 per cent of total demand to 49 per cent by 1987, but the project hangs the fate of Western Australia's next quantum leap and the hopes of going downstream in the longer term with a petrochemical complex.

Woodside is at pains to emphasize that it is in its final year of evaluation of the project and that no final decision has been made to proceed. The major problem is finding export markets for liquid natural gas for the bulk of the prospective output.

Such is the importance of the project that ministers will not admit that there is a question mark over its development, or that in recent months the international liquid natural gas market has become weaker. Earlier this year reliable sources suggested that the chances of the project going ahead in accordance with the existing company/government agreements were about 80-20 in favour. This

has now been cut to about 60-40.

The biggest potential market is the west coast of the United States. Public utilities in California want the gas, but the United States energy policy is in total disarray and there is a strong environmental movement against the construction of long terminals. Even if President Carter and Congress could sort out their differences, the prospect of endless court cases could delay a decision indefinitely.

Japan is the other big potential market, but demand has shrunk. On the other hand the nuclear power station programme has been reduced, but Woodside and its partners still have to get signatures on the contracts.

It is proposed that the North Rankin field should produce 1,440 million cu ft of gas a day from two platforms. About 370 million cu ft a day would be sent through a 1,500km pipeline to be built to Perth and the south west. The rest would be turned into gas and, after allowing for loss in the process, a fairly small amount would be used in Western Australia and about 850 million cu ft a day would be exported.

Woodside already has agreements for the supply to Western Australia and the most important, direct, customer will be Alcoa which will use the gas in the proposed extension of its bauxite operations. Alcoa needs this assured supply to go ahead with its expansion, but the contract is not enough to ensure the viability of the North Rankin field.

However, one senior Western Australian government official suggested that the project was of such



Offshore drilling at the North Rankin field: breaking core into sections

importance to the state's future economic development—initially the pipeline and the Alcoa project—that both the state and federal governments would be prepared to see the original agreements with Woodside rewritten.

Construction and engineering companies in Western Australia are fearful of the consequences of the

project not going ahead. The big iron ore expansion projects are coming to an end and soon there will be little activity unless there is an unexpectedly sharp increase in the international economy.

Ultimately the continental shelf would allow diversification of the economy by going downstream into petrochemicals. The gas would be brought ashore at Dampier, where Conzinc Rio-Tinto of Australia has extensive solar salt operations.

Western Australia exports about 4,300,000 tons of salt a year. Sir Charles Court, the state Premier, believes that production could be stepped up to 12 million tons a year. The pattern of development has changed from the easy days of the 1960s. Then mining companies were

expected to provide most of the services themselves. Such has been the change the economics of mine and other major projects that the Government recognized that it will be left to do much themselves. Sir Charles fought a protracted battle, which is only just been won, for individual states to be allowed to raise capital overseas for specific projects to help their development. Sir Charles will be raising \$500m a year in 1990 for specific financing projects. The gas pipeline from North Rankin to Perth will require \$400m alone.

Death still the only cure for gold fever

Ora Banda's stock exchange no longer functions. Indeed, like most of this once thriving settlement, which had a population of 2,000 in about 1900, the stock exchange building no longer exists. All that remains of the once prominent town is a few shacks and the State Battery—a rock crushing plant.

Ora Banda is typical of the centres, the settlements that sprang up in the bush around Kalgoorlie in the 1890s when gold fever struck Western Australia. Gold was the saving of the state and gold almost literally put the area on the map. Laggard behind the rest of the continent in numbers and prosperity, the state flourished with the rich gold fields in Coolgardie in 1892 and in Kalgoorlie the following year.

In 1891, the population of Western Australia was just 49,728, but by 1901 the total population (excluding Aborigines) of Australia. Ten years later, the state's population had risen to 184,124, to represent 4.68 per cent of the total population. The gold rush attracted thousands of immigrants and migrants from the eastern states where the brief gold boom had ended.

The value of gold production soared from \$171,000 in 1890 (gold had been found in the Kimberley region a few years before) to \$12m by the end of the century. But

by 1920 the value was almost halved and it was not until the mid-1930s that there was another resurgence in the industry.

Ora Banda is in the category of what was the gold region. The heart has long since been knocked out of the industry, although Mount Charlotte in Kalgoorlie still produces, as do a few isolated mines in the bush.

But if the boom has long since gone, gold fever still infects Kalgoorlie and its environs. Death is the only cure, once bitten by the gold bug, and there are plenty of weekend gold miners, who dig out rock and when they have accumulated a sufficient quantity, take it to the State Battery for crushing.

In the bars of Kalgoorlie they will produce chamisols and proudly display a few nuggets. Their belief in gold is absolute and they propagate its virtues with a fervour that would have made a colonial missionary die with embarrassment.

Kalgoorlie's gold bugs know little of the international gold market, have never heard of the annual Consolidated Gold Fields report on the industry, which has now become a bible for any experienced investor, and detest the pragmatic Western Mining which they believe has taken all the romanticism out of gold mining.

But with gold having gone through \$200 an oz, the old hands are getting active again and hoping that Western Mining will reopen some of the old mines regardless of the future price of gold and the economics of the operation.

So the bush is active again and the Ora Banda State Battery is heavily booked. To get to Ora Banda, 60 km north of Kalgoorlie, must have been a backbreaking exercise for the pioneers. Now you take the road to Leonora, which has the distinct advantage of being tarred, and turn on to a dirt track at Broad Arrow.

Broad Arrow lies a few hundred yards off the tarred road. Once it boasted a population of 2,400, had eight hotels, a stock exchange and a railway station. All that remains of the station is a sign. There are six residences passing as hotels, one of the original hotels in the same condition it must have been 80 years ago, and nothing else.

But if the outback settlements have disappeared, Kalgoorlie is very much a reminder of the past. The atmosphere with its corrugated iron houses and Hannan Street—the main street—looking like a Hollywood set for a Western.

On the corner of Hannan Street and Boulder Road stands the town's most famous hotel, The Palace (you cannot miss it—it is by the only set of traffic

lights between Perth and Adelaide). It was The Palace they flocked when Kalgoorlie was hit by its second rush in the 1960s and early 1970s when nickel had become the new gold after Western Mining's discovery at Kambalda, 56 km to the south.

It was in The Palace that plots were hatched and paper fortunes won and lost over a glass or two of beer—and conveniently there is a stockbroker's office next door.

As befits a mining and frontier town, Kalgoorlie has its brothels, although they have been hit by the recession. Prostitution may be illegal and the police station may be at the top of the road, but Hay Street is notorious throughout Australia. But Hay Street has none of the joie de vivre of Amsterdam or Hamburg and the locals describe this sordid area, with good architectural reason, as "The Starring Stalls".

Kalgoorlie, Western Australia's second largest urban centre with a population of 29,865 according to the 1971 census, sits expectantly, awaiting the next boom. Meanwhile, the men talk of gold and play the illegal game of "Two Up" (women are banned) two miles out of town just off the Leonora road.

D. Q.

Diamonds begin to sparkle

Diamond fever has hit Western Australia. Just as gold in the 1890s, iron ore and nickel, started frenetic rushes into the harsh, desolate back country, so, too, diamonds are luring all manner of would-be mining magnates into inhospitable areas.

The rush has not reached the extraordinary proportions of the nickel boom of 1969-71, but already it looks like being a spectacular affair—whether or not there are commercial quantities of diamonds—and threatens to make the nickel era a modest event.

The presence of diamonds in Western Australia had been suspected for years and there has been some exploration in fits and starts in the northern part of the state.

But the real rush was started this year when it became apparent that consortium—the Ashton joint venture—had found enough interesting prospects in the Kimberleys east of the small township of Derby to press \$4m in establishing a pilot testing plant.

The consortium is led by Australia's largest mining company, Conzinc Rio-Tinto of Australia, and includes such large organizations as Tanganyika Concessions and the Malaysian Mining Corporation—MMC is to float

off to the public its company involved in the quest.

The combination of such respected names as CRA, and the investment being put into the venture, led to companies large and small joining in the hunt, which has spread far beyond its original confines. Companies are now pegging land in the Pilbara and to the west and south of the region. In some circles it is said that CRA has transferred all its geological teams to Western Australia to join in the rush.

As in many mining ventures, but particularly in this case where the prize is of high value and easily transportable, the chase has been characterized by drama and secrecy. CRA leaked out that the consortium was prospecting in the far north-east of the state and indeed began negotiating with the Aboriginal communities. A few businessmen rushed to peg land around the consortium's area. While all this was going on, CRA was quietly concentrating its work several hundred miles to the south-west.

One entrepreneur told me ruefully that when he heard of CRA's activity he had pulled out a map but decided the area was too remote and costly to get to. Had he known where the real

centre of the search was, he would have got some old school friends living on farms in the area to peg land around the consortium's leases.

By the time he did find out, it was too late. What the consortium had not pegged, others had—Selektor Trust, the UK mining finance house—with considerable diamond expertise has now bought into some of these claims.

Many of the small companies' geological knowledge is as good as the information they can afford to buy in. They know little about the economics of a diamond mining operation and even less about the structure of the market and the role played by De Beers.

But at the moment, the aim is to get the land pegged in the hope that it turns out to be profitable. The best way to do that for groups with limited resources is to talk the major firms—Stockdale, part of De Beers, is being shadowed closely in Sydney, New South Wales, and Mount Newman, in Perth all the "listening posts" have been reactivated and the main hotels are watched for the arrival of senior mining executives.

All this activity is spilling over into the stock markets and already there have been

some extraordinary price rises among the junior exploration companies such as Carr Boyd and Otter, which have pegged land.

At this stage it is a long way from the 1969-71 nickel era and is more reminiscent of the quieter period after the Western Mining Kambalda discovery in 1966. How long it will stay that way is debatable, but the scene will probably be set when more substantive information is available. CRA has been reluctant in providing more than the barest details.

Memories of the Poseidon era may deter some of the older hands, but there is a new generation of investors. Diamonds have a far greater fascination than nickel (many investors did not know what nickel was used for) and there has been speculation about the shortage of some types of diamonds and the price increases that De Beers—which has a near worldwide marketing monopoly—has imposed.

It may be three years before it is known finally if there are commercially viable diamond prospects. Meantime there will be a lot of activity, a lot of money to be made and undoubtedly a lot of money to be lost.

D. Q.

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Grim year as luck runs out for minerals producers

by John McIlwraith

Nothing has demonstrated to West Australians their role in the world economy more than the decline in the sale of the state's minerals in the past year.

As a main producer of raw materials, the state has for the past decade become as much involved in decisions taken in Tokyo, New York and Brussels, as it has in those made in Canberra.

The result was that to a large extent the state escaped the early effects of the Australian recession. It produced few of the consumer goods that were affected by strong competition from imports, or the loss of confidence by the buying public.

With some exceptions, its sale of minerals and other raw materials overseas remained at reasonable levels for the early years of the recession, mainly because the main customer, Japan, was involved in an aggressive and successful export programme of its own.

Western Australia's biggest income-earner, iron ore, was still bought by the Japanese in those years. In 1976-77 the state produced iron ore worth nearly \$800m, well over half the value of total mineral production of \$1,612m.

But the state's luck has run out, as protectionist

policies began to affect Japanese exports to Australia, particularly of steel, that country's producers began acquiring ominous stockpiles of iron ore.

By early this year it was clear that the four main producers in Western Australia would face a grim year and figures for the first quarter confirm the trend.

Iron ore sales (including some to Australian steel mills) fell by about 12 per cent, and their value by 6.7 per cent. If this rate is maintained for the year the value of production will fall by about \$100m compared with 1977.

The steel industry's troubles have also been transmitted to that other big growth industry of the past decade, nickel. Gross capacity in the world industry, coupled with stagnant demand, has caused a sharp cut in Western Australian nickel production.

The state, which in a normal year can produce 8 per cent of the world's nickel consumption, and could easily increase this will probably turn out 20 per cent less nickel this year than last. Some mines have been closed, including the Windarra of Posidon fame, although development work is continuing.

At least 14 per cent of the industry's workforce has

been laid off. Ironically a new project, the Agnew Venture, sponsored by Selection Trust and MIM Holdings, is being commissioned. It faces a stringent period, living on the expectations of stronger demand later.

The nickel industry, which in 1976-77 produced metal and concentrate worth \$252m, will have a much lower income this year.

The state's healthy mineral sands industry, which was expanded rapidly during the world boom of the early 1970s, was affected by the recession much earlier.

Australia produces between 80 and 90 per cent of the important mineral sands and Western Australia provides about half the national figure.

By 1976-77 the state's producers were turning out six types of mineral sands with a total value of \$53m, but not long before there had been the expectation that production could soon be worth \$100m annually. Such a prospect now appears remote. Some projects have been closed, others have been forced into mergers.

But the news for the state's mining industry is not all bad. The alumina-bauxite industry is producing alumina worth about \$270m (a somewhat illusory figure, based on sales between companies of the same

group—world prices suggest a much higher real value). Considerable expansion of this industry is planned to cope with expected growth of markets in the next few years.

The small goldmining industry, a reminder of the glories of the past on Kalgoorlie's Golden Mile, has also benefited from buoyant demand.

The value of sales from the few surviving West Australian mines in the first quarter of this year was double that of the same period in 1977. This is partly a product of higher prices, partly due to the opening of a high-yielding new mine by the American company Newmont, and Broken Hill Proprietary.

Gold in the first quarter yielded \$16.8m and the figure for recent months can be expected to be higher. Sales this calendar year could be at least \$80m, compared with \$28.2m in 1976-77.

Several propositions are being examined to reopen old mines in the goldfields around Kalgoorlie as long as prices remain at their present high levels.

One of the more surprising raw material exports from Western Australia is "solar salt", harvested from vast shallow pools after the water figure, based on sales between companies of the same

Australia's five salt producers are all in Western Australia and they provide at least 40 per cent of the salt used by the Japanese chemical industry.

Exports this year will be worth at least \$30m, 75 per cent of them to Japan. After earlier problems the industry appears to be weathering the recession in reasonable health.

The state produces natural gas and petroleum worth about \$70m a year and coal valued at \$25m. All produced is consumed domestically. This value, however, will be dwarfed by expected production from the north-west shelf.

The recession has spurred mineral producers to rely less on sales to Japan and there is a brisk campaign to win markets in South-east Asia and the Middle East. This applies particularly to the iron ore industry, which foresees only moderate growth in Japanese demand, even if world sales of steel recover significantly in the next few years.

Instead, they expect rapid growth in low-cost developing countries such as South Korea, Taiwan, China, Pakistan and the Middle East. Sales to such places have increased from West Australian iron ore mines in recent years, but much greater trade is expected.

From the present figure of only a few million tonnes a year, the West Australian producers expect exports to smaller steel producers to increase to as much as 30 million tonnes annually by the mid-1980s. This would represent about a quarter of expected production from West Australian mines in that year, reducing significantly the reliance on Japan.

As much as 70 per cent of output has previously gone to Japan (and in buoyant years, 15 per cent to Europe). The state provided nearly half of all the iron ore used in Japanese mills—at a time when it was also producing about 20 per cent of all that was traded internationally.

As with Japan, the West Australian mines are geographically well placed to win a big share of iron ore markets among these new producers.

Similar opportunities will present themselves for a number of other commodities produced in Western Australia. But, until these opportunities are taken, the prospect for developing a number of new projects in a wide range of industries will be limited.

Before the recession in metal prices, proposals to launch ventures in copper, zinc, nickel and iron ore were being closely examined by many companies. These plans are not likely to be dusted off for some years.

Further expansion brings dilemma

Western Australia's alumina industry, already one of the world's biggest, is poised for further expansion that could continue for the rest of this century. But it also represents, in microcosm, the serious dilemma that faces a resources-rich society with spiralling costs for economic growth and the fashionable concern with the environment.

Bauxite-mining, the first stage in the refining of alumina, is the most serious ecological issue facing West Australians. It is the only mining industry existing in a prospect with potentially significant environmental problems. The rest of the state's resources—iron ore, nickel and a dozen other minerals, oil and gas—can be exploited with no insuperable ecological obstacles.

It is significant that the only major reverse suffered by the state's big mining industries, on ecological grounds, was for a major alumina-alumina project planned north of Perth by the mining entrepreneur, Sir James Hackett and Peter Wright, in partnership with the big Australian group, CSR.

Six years ago, in an historic decision, the state's newly-formed Environmental Protection Authority recommended to the state Labour government that the project be abandoned because it

could endanger underground water reserves.

It was the first major development project rejected in Australia on ecological grounds and it was a particularly painful decision to make because the economic stimulus it would have provided at that time was badly needed. Although alternative sites were found for the alumina refinery the venture was finally abandoned.

Today's debate centres on two proposed alumina projects about 180 miles south of Perth. They are in the same heavily timbered range of hills in which the state's two existing refineries are located. These operated by Alcoa of Australia (a partnership of Alcoa of the United States and three Australian mining companies) have an impressive record of efficiency.

The newer plant, near Pinjarra, is regarded as the most efficient in the world, and with the older one at Kwinana, highly profitable. They produce 3,400,000 tonnes of alumina a year for use in Alcoa's Victorian aluminium smelter, and for export to a number of countries.

The alumina they produce is worth between \$400m and \$500m a year, ranking with iron ore and nickel as the most valuable of the state's mining industries.

Tentative planning by Alcoa and another group,

Alwest, proposes expansion to lift this figure to at least 10 million tonnes a year in the next 25 years.

The first steps are proposals by Alcoa to build a third refinery with an initial output of only 200,000 tonnes a year; for Alwest to add another with an early output of one million tonnes, and a maximum of twice that in the future. (Alcoa's new refinery, and to a lesser extent its Pinjarra plant, would provide for most of the remaining expansion needed.)

Such projects would cost \$1,000m in the next three or four years, and provide a strong flip to Perth's economy at a time when its economy could need some stimulation. The particular attraction of the industry is that it is situated close to the city, and in well-populated rural areas. The economic benefits would be more readily felt than for mining ventures that are launched in remote regions, perhaps 1,000 miles from the capital (a typical situation).

But the debate about this growth industry centres on whether it will provide a conflict in land use with other valuable resources—forests and, more crucially, water.

For people in well-watered countries, it is difficult to understand an Australian's preoccupation with water. Less water runs off the entire three million square miles of the Australian continent than flows down the Danube each year. And most of Australia's rain falls in a brief tropical summer in the northern third of the continent.

Exceptions are the well-watered south-west and south-east corners of the continent. The Darling Range, where the extensive (though relatively low-grade) bauxite deposits exist near Perth, is also the catchment area for some of the state's major dams.

The complex mechanics of the range include a high level of salinity brought in by rain from the Indian Ocean. Over thousands of years this has been carried deep into the soil of the range and, where there is only a modest clearing of trees, the salt stays there.

But in certain conditions, where heavy clearing takes place, the water table rises; so does the salt, and rivers and streams can become almost as salty as the sea.

It must be emphasized that there is no evidence that the bauxite-mining that has taken place in the range has increased this salinity. Where the problem has occurred, well south of the existing shallow open cut bauxite mines, it has been because of excessive clearing of land for farming. The salt levels in one major dam are already alarmingly high because of over-zealous farmers cutting trees in the catchment area.

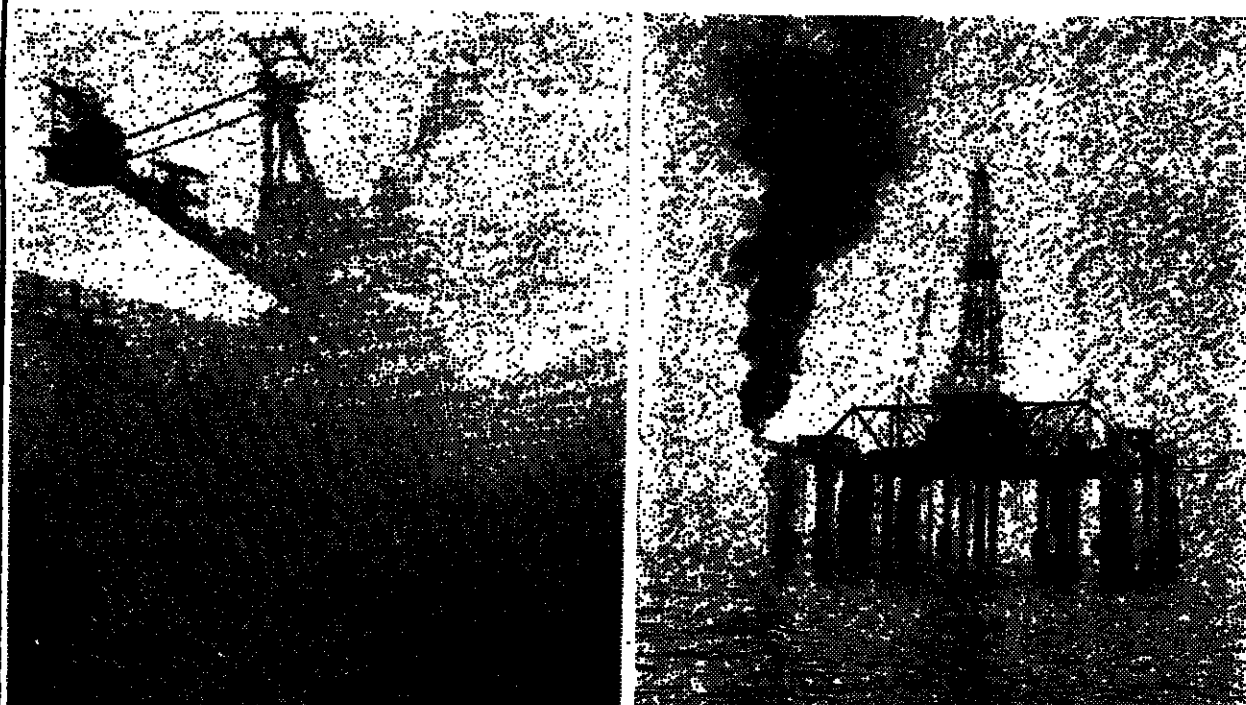
Environmentalists opposing further expansion of the bauxite industry claim that there is no guarantee that the next projects will not increase water salinity.

They and the mining companies and the state Government differ too on the future of an even more tragic problem, a fungus dieback disease that for half a century has been killing big tracts of Western Australia's superb hardwood forests.

J. McI.

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Farmers seek exports in growing Middle East market

by John McIlwraith

Minerals have occupied centre-stage in Western Australia for the past decade, but the state's agricultural industries are still a strong force for future growth.

Land is cheap by Australian (and indeed Western World) standards, a factor which is likely to push the frontiers of farming development further into the state's vast interior in the next quarter of a century.

Land cleared for farming increased by half in the 15 years to 1976, and agricultural economists estimate that another 40 per cent will be cleared by the end of the century.

The scale of farming in Western Australia bears little relationship to that in Britain. Wheat and sheep farms of 3,000 acres are common, and some pastoral properties in the empty north of the state cover a million acres—the size of some English counties.

High labour costs have led to a high level of mechaniza-

tion. One man usually runs a 3,000-acre wheat and sheep farm.

Generous tax provisions for spending on farm equipment encourage farmers to invest almost as much in machinery as in land.

Although the number of people employed in agriculture in Western Australia has fallen steadily in recent years (and the size of properties has grown) improved technology has steadily increased yields in most industries.

The state's economy now depends roughly equally on mining, farming and manufacturing, with the last largely servicing the others.

Western Australia, with only 8 per cent of Australia's population, provides about one fifth of the country's export income.

The state's strong agricultural base is emphasized by these figures: it produces nearly a third of the nation's wheat, more than a quarter of its wool, nearly a fifth of its mutton.

The proportions could increase in the next 25 years, when it is expected that 53 million acres of land will be used for farming or pasture. By then the production of cereals could increase from the present level of about five million tonnes to seven million tonnes.

One reason for these optimistic forecasts is the growing markets in South-east Asia and the Middle East. Expected increases in living standards in many developing countries could provide millions of customers for Western Australian farmers, who are geographically well-placed to serve them.

The oil-rich countries of the Gulf are already proving to be principal buyers of Western Australian lamb and mutton, especially live sheep.

There have been several disruptions to this trade because of union fears that live sheep exports will reduce employment, but if these problems can be overcome sales are expected to increase significantly.

Sales of meat and sheep

to the Gulf could be worth \$20m a year in the near future. Much of the lamb sold in the bazaars of The Gulf arrives from Western Australia by air only a day after it has left Perth abattoir.

The Gulf could become as important to Western Australia in the early 1980s as Japan is today as an export market for raw materials and particularly food. Japan now imports at least 15 main commodities from the state.

Dr R. Gabbay, of the Middle East Studies Unit of the University of Western Australia, calculates that The Gulf countries could be buying Australian agricultural products and other raw materials worth \$2,400m a year by 1985.

Well over half of this could come from Western Australia.

Dr Gabbay says exports from Western Australia to The Gulf rose more than four times in three years to 1975-76.

By 1976 they had reached \$440m.

Many British farmers have successfully made the difficult change to the different kind of agriculture in Western Australia. Cheap land (in some cases acquired at no purchase cost under government schemes devised to open up land), opportunities to provide farms for their sons, and the climate encouraged many to migrate.

Eight years ago many farmers still trying to establish themselves in outlying areas were forced off the land when a drought, and a world slump in prices, coincided. In several recent years another drought, again in outlying areas, has caused more hardship.

But for most Western Australian farmers, the coming year is faced with some optimism. Wool and beef prices are expected to rise moderately, though there may not be any increase in wheat prices because of bumper harvests in many producing countries.

by Desmond Quigley

About \$3m is being spent to promote the 150th anniversary of Western Australia. Some of the celebrations will be international, but most will be parochial affairs. They will last for the whole of next year and government ministers and officials hope they will put the state on the tourist map.

With all the publicity the government machine can muster—television commercials, posters, badges, stickers and speeches—citizens are being urged into a festive frame of mind. Apart from forging a firm identity with the state of Western Australia, officials hope that Western Australians will start to discover the vast richness of the area by taking internal holidays.

But more people from the eastern states will wish to explore a neglected part of their continent and that European relatives of immigrant families will be coaxed into visiting the state.

State tourism looks to Laker for lift-off

Then, of course, there are the business conventions and the cultural and sporting events which have been attracted, all with an eye on spreading the message.

The \$3m being spent on the year of festivities comes from both the state Government and industrial sponsorship. While there has been some criticism of the sums being spent on publicity rather than more socially oriented projects, such as building more tarred roads, Mr Graham MacKinnon, the Tourism Minister, comments blandly: "We will get that back in a few shows if we can encourage people to advertise."

But if the 150th anniversary is a means to open up the tourism potential of the state, Sir Freddie Laker with his Skytrain is seen as a way of making the state more accessible to the foreign tourist.

Mr Noel Semmens, director of the Western Australian Department of Tourism, told me that the state has been negotiating with the federal authorities for two years to get permission for a London-Perth air service to run twice a week on the lines of the Skytrain.

Although the prime objective is to get a Skytrain type of operation, the strong preference is for Sir Freddie himself to run it as originator of no-frills air travel and now much practised in the system.

But as with other Laker propositions, Mr Semmens's idea has run into staunch establishment opposition in the federal Government, with the Civil Aviation Authority and other vested interests.

Mr Semmens believes that cheap air travel from Europe would attract tourists not just to Western Australia but to the rest of the continent as well.

Under his scheme tourists arriving from Europe would have to stay in Western Australia for at least two to three days, which would mean being largely based in Perth. Then they could either travel around the state or fly over to the eastern states at a concessionary rate. The system could also work in reverse from the eastern states to Perth.

The concept of concessionary inter-state travel is important because normal fares are expensive and thus restrict the flow of travellers. Mr Semmens commented that there are 750 empty seats a week on the Perth-Sydney, Sydney-Perth air route. As he put it bluntly: "This is ridiculous."

Any cheapening of the cost of getting to and travelling around Australia could only help the tourist trade. At £780 for the return London-Perth trip, the regular economy price is something of a misnomer and certainly acts as a major deterrent to would-be tourists. To take a worthwhile holiday in Australia involves a fairly large outlay and Mr Semmens believes that many people would happily economize on transport in order to live well once they arrive.

What greets the tourist on arrival in Western

Australia is an extraordinary diversity of climatic conditions, of flora and fauna. The state encompasses sub-tropical and temperate zones, desert and lush pastures, gently undulating ground and mountain ranges.

And everywhere, even in Perth which accounts for some 800,000 of the state's 1,200,000 inhabitants, there is a feeling of space and grandeur. The British Isles would be lost in the vast land mass—indeed, Western Australia is bigger than Texas, Japan and the British Isles put together.

Perth is naturally a magnet. It is far more than the state city; it is a city state and exquisitely beautiful in its setting astride the Swan and Canning rivers, with its sprawling but neat suburbs reaching to and along the coast of the Indian Ocean.

The vista of the city and the Swan river from the vantage of King's Park—1,000 acres combining a formal park and natural habitat—is as breathtaking as is the serenity of Freshwater Bay from Point Resolution. The wide reaches of the Swan river serve only to enhance the grandeur of Perth.

The city is a mixture of architectural styles, with

some exceptionally good modern office buildings. Most notably Allendale Square, although for reasons somewhat difficult to fathom that building has excited controversy—and tropical and temperate vegetation. But the mixture

One of the delights of Perth, as indeed with the rest of the state, is its rich diversity. From the Riviera feeling of Riverside Drive in the centre of the city, it is only a few miles to Gullford, where the meadows slope down to the Swan river creating the illusion that the Thames and the Cotswolds are transplanted on the other side of the world.

While the city has its inland waterway, it also has its miles of beautiful beaches (sometimes not so beautiful with broken beer bottles and empty cans). Even in what Australians like to call their winter, the "surfers" are in the water with the coming of dawn in search of that elusive wave.

Perth has the ancillary facilities to accommodate easily the tourist traffic, but that is not necessarily the case in other parts of the state.

The south-west is a pretty well served, acting as a catchment area for Perth and more recently, now that the road is tarred all the way from Adelaide to Perth, attracting easterners to the Jarra forests, the old villages and now the vineyard of Margaret river. After only a few years, the quality of wines from the area offers great promise.

To the north, however, much remains to be done. Tourism is really to take off. There are not enough hotels even now while a few new tarred roads would seem in order—there is an art in driving on dirt roads, particularly after a sudden storm.

Much development of the tourist trade remains to be done, but it is hoped that Western Australia will be able to avoid the economic that have sprung up elsewhere and thus protect as much as possible the natural splendour of such areas as the Pilbara and the north-west.

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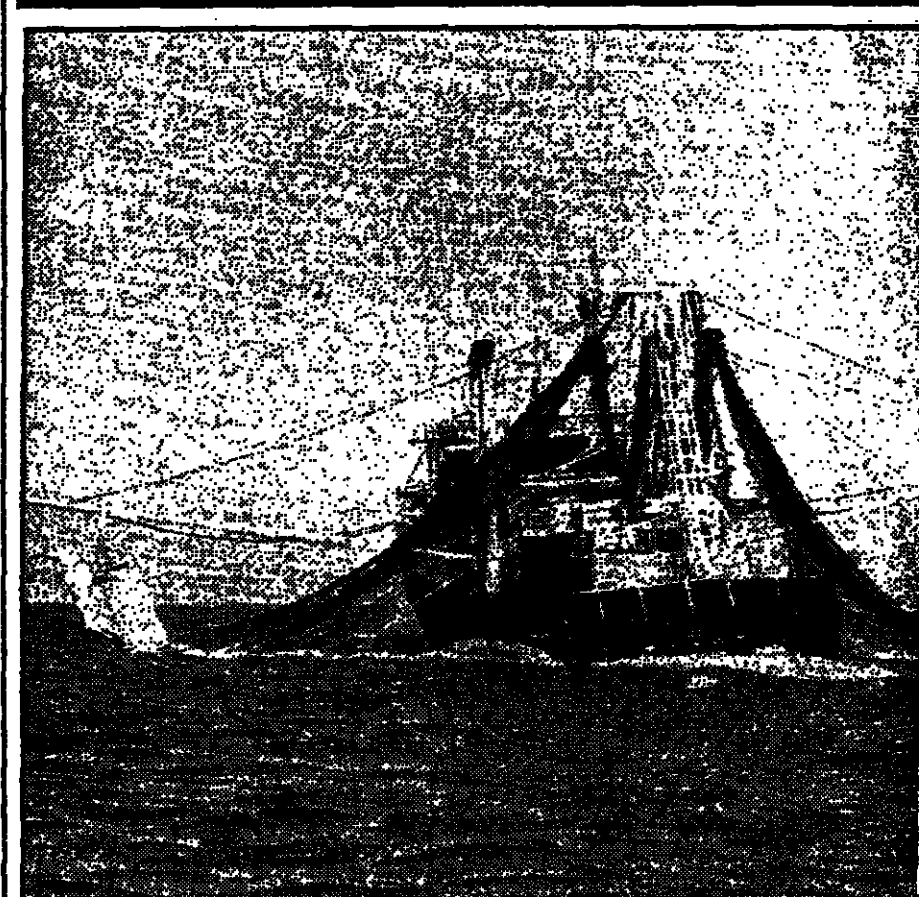
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Prawning off the west and north-west coast is a rich and growing industry.

Lobsters lead fishing industry growth

Fishing is one of Western Australia's smallest industries, but it is profitable, has made several people millionaires and, with the exception of whaling, should be a major growth area.

Crustaceans, particularly rock lobster, dominate the total catch by value and provide a useful foreign exchange earner. Exports of 3,128 tonnes of rock lobster tails were worth \$27.8m in the 1975-76 financial year.

Although most of Western Australia's population lives on the coast, fishing, as with the rest of Australia, has been much neglected commercially, apart from the high value of rock lobsters, the momentum has been to turn inland. And what fishing there has been, has been concentrated on shallow waters, except whaling which is due to end this year.

There are now strong hopes that a deep sea trawling industry will be permanently established at Albany to fish the Great Australian Bight. Hounded from its traditional fishing areas, Associated Fisheries, which operates Britain's biggest white fish fleet, has started a joint venture, Southern Ocean Fish Processors, and has sent out three trawlers.

Surveys have been carried out and will be continued over the next two years

fully to establish the fish population of the bight. The high stocks are limited. Until more comprehensive data are obtained it is unlikely that further fishing licences will be granted for fear of over-fishing.

The problem is that there are too many species, which leads to a much too varied catch at present and results in higher than normal processing costs.

How successful the venture will be remains to be seen. Mr Paul Tapscott, chairman of Associated Fisheries, describes the venture as "a bit of a blind hope" while the Western Australian authorities are concerned about conservation.

This concern derives principally from experiences of rock lobster, whose harvesting is now strictly controlled to conserve stocks.

The rock lobster fishing areas extend from the 26th Parallel to the 36th Parallel, bounded roughly by the Murchison River and Buntine Bay. In 1974-75, the gross value (paid to fishermen) of the rock lobster catch was \$19.3m out of a total fishing value of \$27.5m, of which a further \$4.56m was from prawns.

The restrictions imposed on rock lobster fishing include fishing zones, closed out and will be continued over the next two years

control on the fishing new licences.

The main export market for rock lobster is the United States. Namibia is also a great delicacy. Western Australia alone there are considerable complaints that West Australians have to pay American prices.

Further to the north the prawn fishing ground centred on Shark Bay, which accounts for considerably more than half three million prawns that are caught the Western Australian coast.

Prawning is the only fishing carried out by Asians north of the 26th Parallel, but the Taiwanese pair trawl for tropical fish off the north-west coast.

With the new emphasis being put on fishing, Western Australia, in ventures may develop in north-west using Australian money and Taiwanese skill. One part of the fish industry which has declined sharply has been the whaling station at Albany which is closing down this year. The industry is a victim of the international concern over the extinction of the sperm whale, a reduction in the whaling industry and the decision of the general Government to set up an inquiry into the industry.

lives in Scotland and nowhere else in the world. The Welsh bird can claim that distinction though the Red Kite nests in the principality and nowhere else within the United Kingdom and is the only bird to do so.

Among a number of birds that breed only in England (within the British Isles) the most widespread and the most celebrated is the English sparrow; others include the House Martin, the Curlew, the Black Redstart and the Bobolink.

Which birds then for Scotland, Wales and England?

Yours faithfully,

JEFFREY BOSWALL,
Glasgow,
Glasgow,
Glasgow,
Glasgow.

MANAGEMENT

An Irish multinational in the making

Philips, Nestlé, Volvo and Ericsson have one thing in common. They are companies of world standing based in small countries. Is it possible that in a few years another name may be added to the list?

In the Republic of Ireland, Jefferson Smurfit, the principal, and packaging group, already vies with Cement-Roadstone as the country's largest concern. It is outgrowing a small home market and putting down roots abroad. Ireland's first multinational company is in the making.

Or is it? The group is mature enough to have ventured overseas, into England (now the biggest market), the United States, Nigeria, Holland and Australia. But it grew up in a republic very far from being, as Joyce wrote, "the old sow that eats her farrow". It has indeed prospered mightily and Irish companies along with it.

Gross national product has risen 48 per cent in ten years and this year the Irish economy is probably growing faster than that of any other member of the European Economic Community. If the Irish economy has grown by leaps, Jefferson Smurfit has burgeoned in leaps. In ten years net assets multiplied by more than 50 times, partly, it must be conceded, by acquisition.

Even in per share terms the record is hard to beat. Assets



Mr. Michael Smurfit, chairman of Jefferson Smurfit, pondering where to take the group next.

Mr. Michael Smurfit, chairman of Jefferson Smurfit, pondering where to take the group next. A share last year were 11.5 times bigger than in 1967-68. Earnings a share, the key yardstick, went ahead 16 times, enabling ordinary dividends to advance nearly 14 times. It is easy, of course, to grow rapidly (at first) if you start with next to nothing. And Jefferson Smurfit got going in an Ireland still protected by tariffs built up during Mr. De Valera's self-sufficiency drive. The tariffs only came down more or less with membership of the EEC when the group's grip on the Irish market was

too strong to loosen. Finally, the group has one third of the home market in some lines but even where it falls short of this, it has decided to refrain from knocking out the competition for purely political reasons. It is easy to become over-mighty in a small country.

However, Smurfit has what could be a trump card to play in European expansion. It recently allied with Svenska Cellulosa Aktiebolaget, Europe's largest kraft liner producer, which got 49 per cent of Smurfit's corrugated packaging interests.

In return Smurfit collected £18m cash and an assured long-term supply of kraft liner. Over four years the deal is worked out to bring the Irish group an extra £5m of profits. It should also bring it the know-how needed to expand on the Continent when the time is judged ripe.

With all this in mind I visited Dublin for a chat with Mr. Michael Smurfit, 41, chairman, and Mr. Howard Kilroy, finance director.

We talked about the late Mr. Jefferson Smurfit's work in building the group, the recent management reorganization and the still more recent assumption of further responsibilities by Mr. Michael Smurfit.

Jefferson Smurfit was born in 1917, the year that the Associated Television Corporation (as was) in his place. He draws £210,428 a year, making him the highest paid chairman in Britain.

Indeed, Mr. Smurfit's colleagues are sufficiently moved to concede him a four-day week. The other chairman spends on a hobby, a publicly quoted motor distributor.

The present chairman keenly misses his father, whose boardroom portrait looks down on those beneath. This is understandable because Mr. Smurfit senior made the company that bears his name the force that it is. He died only 18 months ago.

When he died in March 1977, he presided over a group making profits of £15.5 in a year. He had also bought the group into the business to whom he rapidly gave management responsibility. But while he was alive he ran it as a family, from O'Shea's Pub alongside the old factory's main entrance.

The eldest son, Michael, had other ideas. In any case he wanted to make his own way if only to get his father to listen to him and bring the group abreast of the times.

He set up for himself with a box making plant in Wigan. It thrived and became part of the group when the two men came together again.

One modernizing idea was to bring in management consultants McKinsey to advise on group structure. They spent two

years peering and probing and finally endorsed father's precept of running the business in small decentralized units to motivate both men and management.

Management might seem a scarce resource in Ireland, but that, one is assured, is only because Irish managers are working throughout the world in other companies.

Now Jefferson Smurfit offers them a home in Ireland, where tax hits the earnings of top management less severely than in Britain.

Michael Smurfit has been feeling his feet for the past year or so, and pondering where to take the group next. He has already concluded the Swedish deal and still has the £18m from it to spend. He can, if he wishes, do as much abroad.

The American company Continental Can, part of company with Smurfit at the beginning of last month when its 10 per cent stake was placed with English investors. This move shows the coming of age but the founder's precepts carry weight still.

It seems that he wrote a little book which circulates only among the brothers and their families. In it he told the brothers how to conduct themselves in business and in life. Let us hope it was a good book, because the Smurfits have no plans for bowing out of the company.

Peter Wainwright

Morale is critical after a fraud is uncovered

It is fairly obvious that the first and most important reason for keeping accounting records is to provide up-to-date information about the workings of a business. Without this, many decisions about present operations or future plans become total guesswork.

But the training of most accountants, and of auditors in particular, emphasizes that there is another, almost equally important reason for having an accounting system: to provide a control device to protect the firm's assets. The system must ensure, for example, that money and bank accounts are guarded against theft; that debtors pay up (eventually, if not immediately) for the goods they have bought; that stocks of materials (or even scrap products) are not pilfered; that removed from the premises, but are all accounted for.

In spite of the attention given to these problems, they still occur. Cash is stolen or misappropriated; debtors abscond; stocks and materials disappear. To expect otherwise is, perhaps, to believe either that

accountants have superhuman powers or that a benevolent deity has suddenly abolished original sin.

There is, however, a danger that when such events are discovered, the management may summon and agree to set up even more rigid controls to prevent the recurrence of such a disaster. The auditors, hanging their heads in shame for not spotting the fraud or theft sooner, are admonished and asked to compensate the firm for its loss.

As their shaking fingers pen the cheque, they too react, true, to their training with polite requests for improvements to the internal control.

In some cases this response may well be correct—but not necessarily. The auditor's prime concern here is, after all, giving immediate protection to the shareholders' assets. But the manager's main interest is, or should be, the overall efficiency and productivity of the organization.

It is not yet sufficiently recognized by some managers that there may well be conflict

between the objective of asset protection and that of optimum productivity. The effectiveness of a firm can undoubtedly be impaired if undue weight is placed on internal control procedures.

It is worth examining one or two of the basic ideas of internal control to see how over-zealous application of them might lead to unexpected results. For example, one accepted principle, as quoted in the English Chartered Accountant's Handbook, is that "all transactions either individually or in groups should involve surveillance by at least two persons, so far as possible independent of each other".

Although the handbook does not spell them out, there are two underlying assumptions about behaviour here. The first is that people have inherent moral weaknesses: unless their activities are monitored, in some way, they are likely to succumb to temptations placed in their path.

The second assumption is that, if there are any irregularities, the employee with control must be able to recognize and take action on them. In other words, the organization will automatically be greater than his fellow employee.

Both of these assumptions are questionable, to say the least. Of course, some employees may be dishonest,

but what percentage? If it is the majority, there may well be some point in a total monitoring process. But the familiar description of mankind as being 5 per cent saints, 5 per cent sinners and the rest somewhere in between is probably nearer the mark.

It cannot be emphasized too strongly that, if employees believe that they are being treated as potential criminals, they are much more likely to behave like them. So if rigid controls are set up to prevent the possibility of minor frauds by the 5 per cent of sinners, it is quite possible that the rest may feel distrustful and that their loyalty and motivation towards the firm is correspondingly reduced.

The second assumption, too, is equally unlikely to be true in all cases. Of course it may say on a company's organization chart that A is responsible for his work to B, who checks the work as part of his routine. But organization charts, however elegant, do not often convey the complex reality of the social relationships within a firm.

To assume that B will automatically report on any irregularity committed by A is to make a very big assumption indeed. A and B do not have to be man and wife, or to share some other, less official

sexual relationship, for there to be a strong bond of loyalty between them, stronger than the bond between either of them and the organization.

So B may overlook the occasional irregularities of A which he happens to notice, simply asking A to "cut these down" or they will be asking awkward questions. Irregularities may be unintentional or may be deliberate cover-ups to defraud and fraud, major or minor.

Perhaps worse, A and B's loyalty to the firm may be so low that they willingly collude to "beat the system" and regularly commit fraud for their mutual benefit.

A company must beware of alienating its employees, and ever driving them towards collusion, by appearing over-suspicious of their honesty.

The message here, then, is essentially a simple one: excessive zeal in applying controls over all possible frauds and theft can lead to loss of employee loyalty and an atmosphere of distrust. This in turn is likely to bring about a reduced interest in the firm's work by employees—and, paradoxically, can even result in a greater risk of loss through fraud than would have been the case without the increased controls.

Richard Nunns

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Schedule 11 and the frustration inside British Leyland

From Mr. Jeff Rooker, MP for Perry Barr (Labour).

Sir, I believe that I can answer the question posed by Mr. Richard Widdowson (September 14) regarding the 32 toolmakers and Schedule 11 of the Employment Protection Act. The use of Schedule 11 is limited to independent trade unions and in the absence of official support cannot be used by individual workers acting alone or in an unofficial group.

The schedule was framed to support collective bargaining—a process which has failed skilled

minorities as presently carried out.

However, the Fair Wages Resolution of the House of Commons is available to any worker or group (official and unofficial) in firms which supply HMG. It was for this reason that representatives of 500 toolmakers at Castle Bromwich (half a mile from SU) submitted a claim in July 1977. The Central Arbitration Committee hearing was held in Birmingham on August 23 last year. The media totally ignored the hearing, the outcome of which could have widespread implications for good in BL.

The company also in the early days tried to ignore the claim even to the extent of refusing to supply the basic information to see if the claim fell within the Resolution, namely confirmation that a contract to supply HMG existed. It took my intervention with the Secretary of State for Defence, the HMG purchasing agent, to secure cooperation. And the public still wonders why there is frustration inside BL.

JEFF ROOKER, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA.

Problems caused by the 'perplexing morass' of EEC competition law

From Mr. G. M. Woods

Sir, As a lawyer, I find that I am increasingly being confronted with almost insoluble problems concerning EEC competition law. I am continually having to advise clients that, because of the far-reaching wording of Article 85 of the Treaty of Rome, they should not include what they consider to be perfectly normal clauses in agreements with overseas parties (not only in the EEC) as these might restrict competition within the EEC.

I am now amazed to see on the first page of the "Business News" of September 6 that the Dutch Government has asked the European Commission what steps it intends to take to limit undue competition between the European aircraft manufacturing industries in view of British Aerospace's

plans to revise the project to build the Hawker Siddeley 146. Is it not time for the Council of Ministers to take some steps and curbing this perplexing morass of EEC competition law so that businessmen can enter into normal commercial transactions without either running the risk of having huge fines imposed on their companies by the EEC Commission or else having to notify virtually every overseas agreement to the Commission with an enormous time delay and possibly unsatisfactory outcome?

I should add that I am, and always have been, an enthusiastic supporter of the concept of the EEC. Yours faithfully, G. M. WOODS, 43 Barons Court Road, London W14 9AU, September 7, 1978.

Level of Co-op pensions

From Mr. Bryan Askew

Sir, It is encouraging to see opposition to some of the Co-op's activities (Business News, September 7) but the Co-op's pension scheme is a daily roundabout after 49 years' service is exceptionally generous when compared to other Co-op pensions.

My step-father died last December at the age of 83 and his pension (with no widow's provision) having served one society for 51 years was £124 per week (it had been £100 from 1.08 on June 27, 1977). The poor treatment of Co-op employees has been a feature of its historical past and it is amazing how Co-op boards generally constituted of amateur affairs committees, have treated those of their own social class over whom they had control.

Yours faithfully, BRYAN ASKEW, 27 Golf Links Avenue, Tadcaster LS24 9HF.

Conditions in the building industry

From Mr. D. P. Tolhurst

Sir, May a craftsman at the "sunny end" of the building industry respond to Mr. Armit's letter on conditions in the industry (September 13)?

I am a carpenter employed by a national medium-sized firm. I have worked on four sites in Britain for my firm, and at each one the conditions are atrocious—ancient cabins serving as canteens as well as stores and workshops, without lighting, hot or even running water, and truly indescribable lavatories. All are covered by the industries Joint Working Rule Agreement, various codes and Acts of Parliament. All are ignored as much as possible.

The same is true of safety. It is the haphazard working conditions that lead to accidents, eg, unqualified erection of scaffolding. Having a site kept clean and safe all the time

requires labour which is deemed unproductive.

By its very nature building employment is casual. Until very recently if you found the job too dirty, unsafe, badly paid, etc, you word with your feet. Although I dispute Mr. Armit's figures concerning stability of the workforce, many people have to stay with a bad job or firm because of the general lack of work, with many hundreds of thousands of operatives having been forced out of the industry.

Regarding "overall remuneration", my best as a craftsman for 40 years is £58. To ensure a decent wage (gross £90, net £60) I have to work from 8 am to 6.30 pm six days a week. I presume by "overall" he means "much overtime".

The real problems of the industry will not be solved by the Campaign Against Building Industry Nationalisation, desperately trying to maintain their cosy exploitation of a basically fragmented and non-unionized workforce. If CABIN succeeds, we will be left with the same low paid, low quality of today, plus the "hump" cowboys and the corruption and theft that prevail at all levels.

I personally believe that nationalisation would result in a situation like that of the dockers: with a stifling of all enterprise, but that seems infinitely preferable to many operatives. I am against that and would prefer to see a good job for a fair wage. The sooner management get out of their offices and on to sites and talk to the men, the sooner they will understand what has to be done.

Yours faithfully, D. P. TOLHURST, 51 Ravenswood Road, Redland, Bristol 6.

ROYAL DUTCH PETROLEUM COMPANY

(N.V. Koninklijke Nederlandsche Petroleum Maatschappij) Established at The Hague, The Netherlands

INTERIM DIVIDEND 1978

The Supervisory Board and the Board of Management of the Company have declared on account of the expected total dividend in respect of the year 1978, an interim dividend amounting to Netherlands Guilders 5.00 per share on its outstanding shares of 20 guilders par value.

A. On the Bearer Shares

(1) This interim dividend will be payable against surrender of coupon No. 164 on or after 20th September, 1978 at the offices of N. M. Rothschild & Sons Limited, New Court, St. Swithin's Lane, London EC4P 4DU on business days between the hours of 9.30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Payment will be made in sterling at the buying rate of exchange current in Amsterdam at 2 p.m. on 15th September, 1978, in the case of coupons presented on or before that date, or on the day of presentation in the case of coupons presented subsequently. In view of the fact that Netherlands guilder funds are being provided by the Company for payment of this dividend, the usual foreign exchange commission will be deducted from the sterling proceeds. Coupons must be accompanied by a presentation form, copies of which can be obtained from N. M. Rothschild & Sons Limited, and the face of each coupon must bear the stamp or other indication showing the name of the presenter.

Coupons must be left for an appropriate period for examination and must be handed in personally. Coupons cannot be paid through the post.

In the case of shareholders not resident within the Scheduled Territories the paying agent may, at the request of the Authorised Depositary presenting the coupons, pay the dividend in a different currency. Information in this respect will be supplied by the paying agent upon request.

Netherlands dividend tax at the reduced rate of 15 per cent will be deducted from the gross dividend where:

(a) United Kingdom income tax has also been deducted; (b) Coupons are presented on behalf of residents of the United States of America, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands Antilles, Norway, South Africa, Sweden or West Germany, provided they lodge the appropriate declaration form.

Netherlands dividend tax at the reduced rate of 20 per cent will be deducted from the gross dividend where coupons are presented on behalf of residents of Indonesia or Surinam, provided they lodge the appropriate declaration form.

In all other cases Netherlands dividend tax of 25 per cent is to be deducted.

(c) On 26th September, 1978, this interim dividend will be paid to Depositories admitted by Centrum voor Fondsenadministratie B.V., Amsterdam, on the shares whose dividend sheets were in their custody at the close of business on 15th September, 1978. Such payment will be made through the medium of N. M. Rothschild & Sons Limited, after receipt by them of a duly completed CF Dividend Claim Form.

Where appropriate, the usual affidavit certifying non-residence in the United Kingdom will also be required if payment is to be made without deduction of United Kingdom income tax.

Where under the double tax agreement between the United Kingdom and the Netherlands 15 per cent Netherlands dividend tax has been withheld, the 15 per cent Netherlands tax is allowable for a resident of the United Kingdom as a credit against the United Kingdom income tax payable in respect of the dividend. The deduction of United Kingdom income tax at the reduced rate of 15 per cent instead of at the basic rate of 33 per cent represents a provisional allowance of credit at the rate of 15 per cent.

B. On the Registered Shares registered in the United Kingdom Section of the Amsterdam Register

The sterling amount of this interim dividend is fixed at 118.810p, per share based on the sterling/guilder rate of exchange being N.85 4.2155 = £1, current in Amsterdam on 14th September, 1978.

The record date will be 25th September, 1978; shareholders registered at the close of business on that date will be entitled to receive the dividend.

On or before 17th October, 1978 dividend warrants will be posted by the transfer agent, Algemeene Bank, Nederland N.V., Amsterdam, to shareholders registered in their books on the record date.

From the dividend on the registered shares Netherlands dividend tax of 25 per cent has also to be deducted. Where under the relevant tax convention shareholders are entitled to a reduction of the Netherlands dividend tax, this can only be effected through a request for a partial refund of the tax withheld on the appropriate tax affidavit.

15th September 1978 ROYAL DUTCH PETROLEUM COMPANY

Helping women to reach the top jobs

Young women managers' careers appear to suffer from much slower promotion in the early stages than those of their male colleagues. This was one of the points to emerge from a report issued last week by INSEAD, the European management education institute.

Some figures illustrating the relative promotion of equally qualified men and women show that in France, for example, male executives aged between 22 and 26 get three promotions to every one for a woman. With engineers it was found that men tend to be promoted in the early years of careers but women rose more gradually and stopped at a lower point in the hierarchy.

Discrimination in career paths was also reiterated in the body of the report which covered proceedings at an international colloquium on the subject of Women in Management held at Fontainebleau in France last year. Studies in France last year showed that in French companies both Shell UK and British Airways noticed a lack of mobility between divisions and functions which had adverse consequences for aspiring women.

It was considered that such a system tended to produce seniority practices that virtually eliminated the possibility of hiring above the lowest level. It also closed off alternative routes to skill-building for women who had entered the company in a field from which middle and top managers were not selected.

Mr. M. J. Bruce, representing the personnel department of British Airways, observed a lack of active career planning at lower levels among female managers. He hoped that newly instituted manpower planning committees would contribute to change.

It was clear from a variety of contributions to the colloquium that moves to give women executives equal treatment had to be reinforced at top level. A policy statement from the most senior level was seen as an important prelude. Few employers apparently maintain inventories of human resources by sex, so a first step was to get the facts. Mr. Bruce observed that the employment of women "is a subject on which everyone has an opinion, but nobody has the facts".

Patricia Tisdall

*Women in Management, published by INSEAD, Boulevard de Constance, F-77305 Fontainebleau Cedex, France.

United Biscuits
Interim results for 1978

Consolidated Profit Statement for the 28 weeks ended 15th July 1978

52 weeks to 31st Dec 1977 (Audited)	28 weeks to 15th July 1978 (Unaudited)	28 weeks to 15th July 1977 (Unaudited)
£000	£000	£000
Sales		
378,100	227,162	187,701
UK (including exports)		
225,900	120,935	122,305
USA	10,833	9,285
Europe	8,300	3,750
Rest of World	3,848	
630,200	362,778	323,041
Trading Profit		
28,400	14,883	11,806
UK		
14,000	6,463	7,451
(600)	(518)	(209)
400	(142)	153
42,200	20,686	19,201
4,100	2,091	2,164
38,100	18,595	17,037
18,800	8,904	8,424
19,300	9,691	8,613
8.9p	3.9p	4.1p
Dividends		
Interim (now declared)	1978	1977
Final (to be recommended, in the absence of unforeseen circumstances)	1.506p	1.817p
	3.006p	2.682p
Supplementary dividend for 1977 (due to change in ACT rate) payable with interim Increase in proposed dividends over 1977:	0.000275p	—
	10%	

Profits increased by £1.6 million to £18.6 million and sales by £40 million to £363 million.

United Kingdom

Trading in the United Kingdom has been extremely competitive. However, I am glad to say that profits are very satisfactory.

Our entry into the frozen food market has been more successful than forecast, but at this stage of its development this operation must be seen as an investment for the future.

United States

Both production and sales in the USA were seriously affected by factors outside our control—the worst January weather in living memory aggravated by the coal strike. Additionally, Keebler's intensive capital programme is resulting in some temporary loss of efficiency in their factories, and gives rise to increased interest charges.

We expect the greater part of the capital programme to be completed in 1979 when current tight production capacity will be eased.

Europe

The distribution costs of our Spanish subsidiary, Productos Ortiz, remain too high for our level of trade, and the first half results were disappointing.

Outlook

At our Annual General Meeting in May, I said that our profit increase in the second half was likely to be more significant than in the first. We now see the rate of increase in the second half being more in line with the rate of increase in the first.

While our profit improvement may not be as great as we would have liked, we believe it important for our future profit growth to accept the cost of investing heavily at this time to take advantage of the trends we see developing in the 1980's.

15th September, 1978

Heckle Laing,
Chairman

UB United Biscuits
United Biscuits (Holdings) Limited, Syon Lane, Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 5NN

McVITIES · CRAWFORDS · MACFARLANES · KP · CARRS · WIMPY · KEEBLER

An astonishing 99 per cent of consumers in this country have a piped water supply, the highest percentage in the world. And, for the first time, 95 per cent is way ahead of other industrial countries, but nitrates in the water, sludge and pollution are the growing problems. Our management or what is called the waste side of the business is better now than it has been probably in the past 50 years. In parts of the country, the northern half, the old industrial areas where there were many toxic effluents being discharged with very little cleaning into the rivers, that is being progressively brought under control. This is the management of the environment is of course a major one for the future, because it is changing so rapidly. New processes, new substances are being produced all the time and they are having a great effect on the environment, not only water but the air. We must monitor our water all the

The son of a colonel in the Royal Artillery, he served in the corps himself. A Surrey JP, an Alderman, a member of the Guildford diocesan synod, a member of the Surrey County Council, Mr. Nuzent has a wide range of public and private life. He said that a British could not be run without the Nuzents in the national syndicate. What does retirement hold for such a man? "I am not much more than I used to be filled much more than I have been in the past. At my age I think a little less commitment would be acceptable. I shall attend the House of Lords regularly. I shall read the papers and news. I shall spend the next five years in order to make a good relationship with ministers, of confidence, which one must do, but I shall not be able to pick up my pen and write debates in the House. I shall be continuing the Standing Conference. I do a lot of things locally. I am on the diocesan synod and all that sort of thing and I shall do a lot of gardening I think."

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The present Government proposed in the White Paper to elevate his to an authority and incorporate it into the Ministry of Agriculture. I do not see this limbo period find there is in very good shape. The job is usually done of creating a national authority. The changes which are for the National Water Authority are to be made in the strengthening of the National Water in relationship to the 10 regional authorities and the small additional British Waterways Board, but really the National Water is the National Water, or slightly larger. I would hope that the National Authority, if it is created—of if there was a change of government, it certainly wouldn't continue to cultivate a similar relationship with the regional water companies. They are the management

Well, it isn't a reality. Water is not like electricity in regard to transmission from one area to another. Electricity can be moved very cheaply long distances, water can't. Water requires big transmission pipes, which are very expensive and big pumps which are also very expensive in the use of power. A lot of money has been spent on a concept. Regional grids yes and those have been substantially completed in the past year or two, so that water can be moved about within the regions to

"The other side of the coin of curse is that metering is the logical way to supply any consumable product, as with electricity or gas. We do get many complaints from people in small households, where there are perhaps only one or two persons living: 'Why should I pay the same as my neighbour, who's got half a dozen children and granny and auntie living there as well and using a hell of a lot of water.' Of course there is no logic in that, this is rough justice.

"I think governments will, with perhaps some hesitancy, allow us to go that way, so that the metered supply of water will be a metered supply, that is shops and offices. Industry will have a metered supply, that only leaves the domestic sector. I would like to see in the domestic sector a gradually, perhaps a more rapid, introduction of the metered option given to the individual consumer to have a meter if he wants one. He would have to pay the cost of installation, the cost of reading, but if he thought he'd better off with it all right, let him have it."

The council inherited an antiquated network of pipes and conduits, which



If you would like copies, or would like a technical expert to talk over your heating needs, write to National Coal Board, Marketing Dept., Hobart House, Grosvenor Place, London SW1X 7AE, or ring 01-235 2020.

NCB

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days
(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

GREAT NORTHERN TRADING
COMPANY LIMITED
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COMPANY'S HOLDING COMPANY
LIMITED

كذا من الاصل

impact of the
EC code
South Africa,
page 21

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

هكذا من الإجمال

Mr Healey faces difficulties today in Brussels over currency plan

By Peter Norman
Sept 17

Denis Healey, the Chancellor, will find himself in an unenviable position when he goes to Brussels tomorrow to discuss the proposed European monetary system with his fellow EEC finance ministers. The French, in a remarkable turn of events, have fallen in with the British view that the system should be based on the existing European "snake" rather than on a floating basket of currencies.

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Allied, Orme and Pearson sagas move to conclusion

By Our Financial Staff

Three long-running City sagas should be brought to a conclusion early this week. Today shareholders in Allied Breweries will be asked at an extraordinary meeting to approve their board's action in making a £66m takeover bid for the food manufacturing and catering group J. Lyons.

Also today the cash offer worth 57p a share from Comben Group for the house-builder Orme Developments closes. Comben hopes to gain control of Orme which creates a dilemma for the mining group St Piran, now holding 28 per cent of Orme and aiming to block Comben.

Tomorrow minority shareholders of Pearson Longman, the newspaper and book publishing subsidiary of the financial and industrial holding group S. Pearson, will be asked to approve a scheme of arrangement under which Pearson would absorb the Longman 36.4 per cent minority.

Pearson's terms, which value each Longman share at 266p, have attracted strong opposition from four institutional shareholders in Pearson Longman, Atlas Electric and General Trust, Clerical Medical & General Life Assurance Society, British Petroleum Pension Trust and Equity & Law Life Assurance Society.

These four hold 1.5 million shares in Pearson Longman, representing 10 per cent of the minority, and claim to have the support of other institutional holders accounting for at least a further 500,000 shares.

MF pessimistic on world trade

By Our US
Economics Correspondent

Washington, Sept 17
America's balance of payments situation is unlikely to improve much this year, while Germany, Japan and Ireland will have a bigger bilateral surplus than all of oil exporting countries put together, further sharp movements in currency rates are expected.

The International Monetary Fund states in its annual report this week that the performance of the industrial countries continues to be unsatisfactory. It is a warning against the dangers of rising protectionism, inflation, and says that if the largest industrial countries take the wisest course the rate of improvement in real economic

No approval yet for Chrysler deal

By Our Industrial Editor

The Government appears to be standing firm on its refusal to approve the transfer of Chrysler UK to Peugeot-Citroen until it gets satisfactory answers from both the Chrysler Corporation of America and the French group that there will be no repudiation on existing loan agreements.

Lawyers are apparently still studying the line print of the complex documents signed by Chrysler Corporation and its United Kingdom subsidiary over two years ago in return for up to £162,600,000 of government assistance in grants and loans.

It appears that the main Anglo-American agreement bound Chrysler Corporation not to take any step or permit any step to be taken which would have the effect that the Detroit parent would be the absolute owner of less than 80 per cent of Chrysler UK.

But lawyers are concerned that this provision was not sufficient to ensure the parallel loan arrangements and guarantees could not be repudiated if the Government faced a situation such as transfer of the ownership of shares.

Mr Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, has imposed tight security on the Government's negotiations with Chrysler, not because the question of jobs, but also because of what are said to be "tricky legal questions".

The Chrysler Corporation is proposing to become a minority partner in the new Peugeot-Citroen group and it is none too clear whether a £28m loan to Chrysler UK will still be guaranteed from Detroit against overseas assets.

At the same time, a separate £27m loan secured on British assets only (and covered by a debenture agreement) may have to be renegotiated.

There is an additional clearing banks facility for loans up to £35m to be drawn under a joint guarantee from the British Government and the Chrysler Corporation.

Mr Varley and his officials want clear and precise answers as to how all the obligations, whether covered by the legal documents or not, will be fully secured and guaranteed under the proposals worked out in such secrecy by Chrysler's Detroit management and Peugeot.

The problem is that government support for Chrysler was entirely based on the assumption that the Americans would maintain their support beyond 1979, covered by the existing contracts.

A declaration of intent about development of the United Kingdom business, not carrying any legal meaning, has in the event proved worthless and Peugeot is ominously declaring it can give no guarantees on jobs which the Government aid was intended to protect.

The task for Mr Varley is to find sufficient legal leverage over the Chrysler Corporation to ensure that it, or Peugeot-Citroen, in the event of government approval, will still assume appropriate guarantees on repayment of interest and principal sums presently supporting the United Kingdom operations.

Peugeot-Citroen, what its promises to assume existing obligations as new owners, would not be bound by the unenforceable Declaration of Intent.

This was signed by Chrysler Corporation on the Government's understanding that this would be honoured to protect medium and long-term loans upon which higher interest payments are due beyond the contractual period to 1979 on loss sharing, whether profits were made or not. Promises are not enough.

While there is talk of a government statement this week, ending its long silence, the present indications are that the Department of Industry may want more time.

It is still smarting at its treatment by Detroit and seems scornful of Peugeot's offer of government seats on the board of Chrysler UK (upon whose assets it anyway has important liens) and equity shares.

Even with the current high interest rates there was no evidence of any sort of credit squeeze and demand for cash was running at an almost unprecedented rate.

The Federal Government, even at this stage in the business cycle, was running a \$40,000m (about £21,520m) budget deficit. Non-financial corporations were adding substantially to their external borrowings.

Dr Kaufman said such borrowing, which totalled just \$40,000m in 1975, would be close to \$100,000m this year and possibly rise to \$115,000m to \$120,000m next year.

And so far there had been little firm evidence that the Fed was trying to restrain the financial system. It had been so fearful of causing a recession that it had been "creeping along" in its efforts to dampen inflation.

The Congress and the Administration had been acting in similar fashion, and policy options had now narrowed.

The introduction of medium-term plans to assure solid growth and curb inflation were no longer feasible. The authorities now knew that any decisions they took would cause some pain, either adding to inflation, risking a recession, or both.

Under the circumstances, Dr Kaufman and many Wall Street experts believe, the time might not be far distant before the authorities try to introduce wage and price controls or some system of credit allocation.

The problem in the domestic economy, as abroad today, was that there are simply too many dollars floating around. The longer the authorities delayed in dealing with this problem effectively, the greater would be the pain when action was finally forced.

Given the current situation and the views of Dr Kaufman and many others on Wall Street, it is hardly surprising that so many financiers here now are very worried.

Frank Vogel in Washington

Building societies defend growth

By John Whitmore

Rapid growth of building societies in recent years has not diverted resources from industrial investment, according to evidence submitted by the Building Societies Association to the Wilson Committee.

The Association suggests that the societies' growth, they now have almost as great a share of the personal savings market as the banks and National Savings put together—has if anything been hindered by "unfair" competition from savings schemes run by the Government.

It also rejects clearing bank criticism on the inflexibility of building society interest rates and argues that the societies' growth, they now have almost as great a share of the personal savings market as the banks and National Savings put together—has if anything been hindered by "unfair" competition from savings schemes run by the Government.

In supporting its case that building societies' expansion has not been at the expense of industrial investment, the association uses three main arguments.

First, it points out, as have many others who have given evidence to the Wilson Committee, that there is no sign of industrial investment being held back as a result of a shortage of finance.

Secondly, it indicates that the proportion of new investment accounted for by housing in the United Kingdom has not only been falling over the past decade but is less than in a number of other industrialized nations.

Finally, it argues that only in a situation of full employment nationally could it be the case that the housing sector might be absorbing real resources that could otherwise have been available for industrial investment.

In terms of their role in the financial system, the association recognizes that the activities of building societies may affect monetary control in a variety of ways. But they argue that the overall effects of building society intermediation are complex and that the credit-creating consequences of this have not been fully appreciated.

The association also rejects criticism by clearing banks of the inflexibility of building society rates. It argues that attempts to satisfy their customers' preferences for lower interest rates does not give building societies any long-term competitive advantage.

It says it has looked at other ways of regulating both interest rates and flows of funds and found most have some kind of disadvantage. It warns also that total freedom of competition between the societies would tend to raise mortgage rates because mortgage demand outstrips supply.

In its comments on national savings, the association says that the Government has been able to give itself considerable taxation advantages. This had been particularly true in the savings market for higher-rate taxpayers. National Savings Certificates and low coupon gilts are cited as two examples.

The association also points out in its evidence that there could be scope for European development in the 1980s. It is understood that the association is already looking into the legal and financial difficulties of opening branches in the EEC.

Financial Editor, page 21

Six companies taken off pay blacklist

By Patricia Tisdall

The names of six companies have been removed from the blacklist of firms which have breached Phase Three of government pay guidelines during the past month. A further three identified by the Department of Employment as having broken Phase Two of the policy have also been dropped.

The list of companies which public purchasing departments have been asked to avoid business with now contains only 65 names, compared with 74 in August. Of these, eight are cited for breaching Phase Two of the pay code and the remaining 57 for Phase Three breaches.

So far, no companies have been blacklisted for contravening the 5 per cent Phase Four Limit, which came into operation on August 1. But it is generally acknowledged that this will be more difficult for employers to meet than the first three phases.

It is understood that the Treasury officials responsible for keeping and distributing the blacklist were working out the implications over the weekend of the effect of sanctions against a big national employer, such as the Ford Motor Company.

Most of the organizations against which sanctions have been applied to date are comparatively small, like James Muckle and sons of Belfast, or like the John Lewis Partnership, which do not rely on government contracts or assistance for much of their business.

There was a hint that the Government is preparing to take a much tougher line, and that sanctions will be imposed on firms breaching the pay code.

The Confederation of British Industry, which has vigorously campaigned against the sanctions, is deeply concerned that its members may be more seriously harmed in the current pay round because of lack of trade union support for the new guidelines.

Figures collected by the CBI's database of pay claims and settlements since the 5 per cent limit took effect indicate that claims are running well above the Government's maximum.

Most of the 19 Phase Four settlements covering 25,000 workers, which have been notified to the CBI so far, are within the guidelines. But the 29 claims covering 450,000 workers are mostly for pay rises of between 20 and 30 per cent.

An even more worrying aspect for the employers is that most new national level claims are containing demands for shorter working week without loss of pay.

The CBI has given warning that the country cannot concede such claims at present without adding to costs and losing competitiveness against international rivals.

The Government said in its White Paper giving the new guidelines that it can only accept a reduction in hours as part of a normal pay settlement on condition that there is no rise in unit costs.

It states that the cost of any improvement in conditions of employment, such as holidays, shorter hours and fringe benefits must count towards the level of settlements as far as the guidelines are concerned.

New Aramco may give Saudis funding problem

New York, Sept 17.—A new problem is complicating Saudi Arabia's transformation of Aramco into a 100 per cent Saudi entity. It is a proposal by the powerful finance ministry that the Saudi replacement company should be fully self-financing for all development needs. Petroleum Intelligence Weekly reports in its latest issue.

Implications could be significant, since future spending would have to come out of a margin of about 50 cents per barrel under the plan being debated in Riyadh, PIW says. AP-Dow Jones.

Under the circumstances, Dr Kaufman and many Wall Street experts believe, the time might not be far distant before the authorities try to introduce wage and price controls or some system of credit allocation.

The problem in the domestic economy, as abroad today, was that there are simply too many dollars floating around. The longer the authorities delayed in dealing with this problem effectively, the greater would be the pain when action was finally forced.

Given the current situation and the views of Dr Kaufman and many others on Wall Street, it is hardly surprising that so many financiers here now are very worried.

Frank Vogel in Washington

Chairman Sir Norman Elliott CBE reports:

- Earnings per share trebled
- Exports up by 40 per cent
- Order book sound
- Satisfactory outlook

Summary of results for year ended 30 April, 1978 and five year review:

	1976	1977	1978	1975	1974
Turnover	85,205	86,313	86,372	67,363	50,621
Profit before taxation	4,981	4,848	4,692	3,891	3,501
Profit after taxation per 25p share	26.7p	15.5p	17.0p	14.8p	13.2p
Earnings per 25p share	15.3p	5.0p	6.2p	6.0p	6.1p
Ordinary Dividend per 25p share (gross)	6.1p	5.546p	5.042p	4.583p	4.157p

For comparison adjustment has been made for the capitalisation issue in 1977.

Copies of the 1978 Annual Report and Accounts can be obtained from the Secretary, Howden Group Limited, 195 Scotland Street, Glasgow G5 8PJ.

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HOWDEN GROUP LIMITED



THE GREAT NORTHERN TELEGRAPH COMPANY (LIMITED)

THE GREAT NORTHERN TELEGRAPH COMPANY'S HOLDING COMPANY, LIMITED

Interim statement for the first half of 1978 for The Great Northern Telegraph Company Limited, of Denmark

The turnover recorded by the Great Northern Group of companies for the first half of the year was practically the same as for the first half of 1977. Cost adjustments and structural changes have improved the operations of the Group, and together with extraordinary receipts from the sale of Sorno shares previously announced have led to an increased group net profit compared with the first half of 1977.

This increase is expected to be maintained for the whole of 1978.

The Board of Directors.

Liquidation threat to Kirkby cooperative

By John Huxley

A Department of Industry official yesterday refused to comment on reports that the Government had turned down a request for £2.9m aid from Kirkby Manufacturing and Engineering (KME), one of two surviving workers' cooperatives set up with the blessing of Mr Anthony Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Industry.

The official said that government dealings with the company, which makes 10 per cent of Britain's central heating radiators and employs 750 people on Merseyside, were confidential.

He also declined to discuss reports that Mr Alan Williams, Minister of State for Industry, had told the Kirkby workers that an unidentified buyer was standing by if the cooperative was forced into liquidation.

Lonrho's Tanzania assets 'overvalued by \$50m'

Dar es Salaam, Sept 17

Tanzania claimed today that the British-based Lonrho group, whose Tanzanian assets were taken over by the Government yesterday, had overestimated their value by \$50m (about £25.1m).

The Government-owned Sunday News said Lonrho was claiming "an astronomical figure of \$54m for assets worth only about \$4m".

It added that in a telex message to the Government Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, Lonrho chief executive, had threatened to sue international bodies such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the Lome Convention—a trade and aid arrangement linking developing countries with the EEC—to force Tanzania to meet its terms.

The Socialist Government last June gave Lonrho three months to dispose of its assets to the state, accusing the company of Rhodesian sanctions-busting and meddling in South African affairs.

Despite talks in the following months, no agreement was reached on compensation for the 18 Tanzanian companies.

A Government management team moved into the Lonrho offices in Dar es Salaam yesterday to take over the company, which employ about 2,500 people, about half of them on tea estates. Sammy Mdee, press secretary to President Julius Nyerere, said the company had delayed negotiations on the takeover. The state takeover had been delayed by two weeks after a personal plea to the President from Lord Duncan Sandys, Lonrho's chairman.

In London, Lonrho denied that the company would not negotiate and said it would challenge the takeover in the international courts.

MANAGEMENT

An Irish multinational in the making

Philips, Nestlé, Volvo and Ericsson have one thing in common. They are companies of world standing based in small countries. Is it possible that in a few years another name may be added to the list?

In the Republic of Ireland, Jefferson Smurfit, the principal, and packaging group, already vies with Cement-Roadstone as the country's largest concern. It is outgrowing a small home market and putting down roots abroad. Ireland's first multinational company is in the making.

Or is it? The group is mature enough to have ventured overseas, into England (now the biggest market), the United States, Nigeria, Holland and Australia. But it grew up in a republic very far from being, as Joyce wrote, "the old sow that eats her farrow". It has indeed prospered mightily and Irish companies along with it.

Gross national product has risen 48 per cent in ten years and this year the Irish economy is probably growing faster than that of any other member of the European Economic Community. If the Irish economy has grown by leaps, Jefferson Smurfit has burgeoned in bounds. In ten years net assets multiplied by more than 50 times, partly, it must be conceded, by acquisition.

Even in per share terms the record is hard to beat. Assets



Mr. Michael Smurfit, chairman of Jefferson Smurfit, pondering where to take the group next.

Mr. Michael Smurfit, chairman of Jefferson Smurfit, pondering where to take the group next. A share last year were 11.5 times bigger than in 1967-68. Earnings a share, the key yardstick, went ahead 16 times, enabling ordinary dividends to advance nearly 14 times. It is easy, of course, to grow rapidly (at first) if you start with next to nothing. And Jefferson Smurfit got going in an Ireland still protected by tariffs built up during Mr. De Valera's self-sufficiency drive. The tariffs only came down more or less with membership of the EEC when the group's grip on the Irish market was

too strong to loosen. Finally, the group has one third of the home market in some lines but even where it falls short of this, it has decided to refrain from knocking out the competition for purely political reasons. It is easy to become over-mighty in so small a country.

However, Smurfit has what could be a trump card to play in European expansion. It recently allied with Svenska Cellulosa Aktiebolaget, Europe's largest kraft liner producer, which got 49 per cent of Smurfit's corrugated packaging interests.

In return Smurfit collected £18m cash and an assured long-term supply of kraft liner. Over four years the deal is worked out to bring the Irish group an extra £5m of profits. It should also bring it the know-how needed to expand on the Continent when the time is judged ripe.

With all this in mind I visited Dublin for a chat with Mr. Michael Smurfit, 41, chairman, and Mr. Howard Kilroy, finance director.

We talked about the late Mr. Jefferson Smurfit's work in building the group, the recent management reorganization and the still more recent assumption of further responsibilities by Mr. Michael Smurfit.

Jefferson Smurfit died in March 1977, he presided over a group making profits of £1.5 in a year. He had also bought the group into the business to whom he rapidly gave management responsibility. But while he was alive he ran it as a family business, the group was his and he was its.

When he died in March 1977, he presided over a group making profits of £1.5 in a year. He had also bought the group into the business to whom he rapidly gave management responsibility. But while he was alive he ran it as a family business, the group was his and he was its.

He set up for himself with a box making plant in Wigan. It thrived and became part of the group when the two men came together again. One modernizing idea was to bring in management consultants McKinsey to advise on group structure. They spent two

years peering and probing and finally endorsed father's precept of running the business in small decentralized units to motivate both men and management.

Management might seem a scarce resource in Ireland, but that, one is assured, is only because Irish managers are working throughout the world in other companies.

Now Jefferson Smurfit offers them a home in Ireland, where tax hits the earnings of top management less severely than in Britain.

Michael Smurfit has been feeling his feet for the past year or so, and pondering where to take the group next. He has already concluded the Swedish deal and still has the £18m from it to spend. He can, if he wishes, do as much as he likes with the money.

The American company Continental Can, part of company with Smurfit at the beginning of last month when its 10 per cent stake was placed with English investors. This move shows the founder's precepts carry weight still.

It seems that he wrote a little book which circulates only among the brothers and their families. In it he told the brothers how to conduct themselves in business and in life. Let us hope it was a good book, because the Smurfits have no plans for bowing out of the company.

Peter Wainwright

Morale is critical after a fraud is uncovered

It is fairly obvious that the first and most important reason for keeping accounting records is to provide up-to-date information about the workings of a business. Without this many decisions about present operations or future plans become total guesswork.

But the training of most accountants, and of auditors in particular, emphasizes that there is another, almost equally important reason for having an accounting system: to provide a control device to protect the firm's assets. The system must ensure, for example, that money and bank accounts are guarded against theft; that debtors pay up (eventually, if not immediately) for the goods they have bought; that stocks of materials (or even scrap products) are not pilfered; that removed from the premises, but are all accounted for.

In spite of the attention given to these problems, they still occur. Cash is stolen or misappropriated; debtors abscond; stocks and materials disappear. To expect otherwise is, perhaps, to believe either that

accountants have superhuman powers or that a benevolent deity has suddenly abolished original sin.

There is, however, a danger that when such events are discovered, the management may summon and agree to set up even more rigid controls to prevent the recurrence of such a disaster. The auditors, hanging their heads in shame for not spotting the fraud or theft sooner, are admonished and asked to compensate the firm for its loss.

As their shaking fingers pen the cheque, they too react, true, to their tragedy with polite requests for improvements to the internal control.

In some cases this response may well be correct—but not necessarily. The auditor's prime concern here is, after all, giving immediate protection to the shareholders' assets. But the manager's main interest is, or should be, the overall efficiency and productivity of the organization.

It is not yet sufficiently recognized by some managers that there may well be conflict

between the objective of asset protection and that of optimum productivity. The effectiveness of a firm can undoubtedly be impaired if undue weight is placed on internal control procedures.

It is worth examining one or two of the basic ideas of internal control to see how over-zealous application of them might lead to unexpected results. For example, one accepted principle, as quoted in the English Chartered Accountant's Handbook, is that "all transactions either individually or in groups should involve surveillance by at least two persons, so far as possible independent of each other".

Although the handbook does not spell them out, there are two underlying assumptions about behaviour here. The first is that people have inherent moral weaknesses: unless their activities are monitored, in some way, they are likely to succumb to temptations placed in their path.

The second assumption is that, if there are any irregularities, the employee with control must be able to recognize and take action on them. In other words, the organization will automatically be greater than his fellow employee.

Both of these assumptions are questionable, to say the least. Of course, some employees may be dishonest,

but what percentage? If it is the majority, there may well be some point in a total monitoring process. But the familiar description of mankind as being 5 per cent saints, 5 per cent sinners and the rest somewhere in between is probably nearer the mark.

It cannot be emphasized too strongly that, if employees believe that they are being treated as potential criminals, they are much more likely to behave like them. So if rigid controls are set up to prevent the possibility of minor frauds by the 5 per cent of sinners, it is quite possible that the rest may feel distrustful and that their loyalty and motivation towards the firm is correspondingly reduced.

The second assumption, too, is equally unlikely to be true in all cases. Of course it may say on a company's organization chart that A is responsible for his work to B, who checks the work as part of his routine. But organization charts, however elegant, do not often convey the complex reality of the social relationships within a firm.

To assume that B will automatically report on any irregularity committed by A is to make a very big assumption indeed. A and B do not have to be man and wife, or to share some other, less official

sexual relationship, for there to be a strong bond of loyalty between them, stronger than the bond between either of them and the organization.

So B may overlook the occasional irregularities of A which he happens to notice, simply asking A to "cut these down or they will be asking awkward questions". Irregularities may be unintentional or may be deliberate cover-ups to defraudation and fraud, major or minor.

Perhaps worse, A and B's loyalty to the firm may be so low that they willingly collude to "beat the system" and regularly commit fraud for their mutual benefit.

A company must beware of alienating its employees, and ever driving them towards collusion, by appearing over-suspicious of their honesty.

The message here, then, is essentially a simple one: excessive zeal in applying controls over all possible frauds and theft can lead to loss of employee loyalty and an atmosphere of distrust. This in turn is likely to bring about a reduced interest in the firm's work by employees—and, paradoxically, can even result in a greater risk of loss through fraud than would have been the case without the increased controls.

Richard Nunns

Helping women to reach the top jobs

Young women managers' careers appear to suffer from much slower promotion in the early stages than those of their male colleagues. This was one of the points to emerge from a report issued last week by INSEAD, the European management education institute.

Some figures illustrating the relative promotion of equally qualified men and women show that in France, for example, male executives aged between 22 and 26 get three promotions to every one for a woman. With engineers it was found that men tend to be promoted in the early years of careers but women rose more gradually and stopped at a lower point in the hierarchy.

Discrimination in career paths was also reiterated in the body of the report which covered proceedings at an international colloquium on the subject of Women in Management held at Fontainebleau in France last year. Studies in France last year showed that women in both Shell UK and British Airways noticed a lack of mobility between divisions and functions which had adverse consequences for aspiring women.

It was considered that such a system tended to produce seniority practices that virtually eliminated the possibility of rising above the lowest level. It also closed off alternative routes to skill-building for women who had entered the company in a field from which middle and top managers were not selected.

Mr. M. J. Bruce, representing the personnel department of British Airways, observed a lack of active career planning at lower levels among female managers. He hoped that newly instituted manpower planning committees would contribute to change.

It was clear from a variety of contributions to the colloquium that moves to give women executives equal treatment had to be reinforced at top level. A policy statement from the most senior level was seen as an important prelude. Few employers apparently maintain inventories of human resources by sex, so a first step was to get the facts. Mr. Bruce observed that the employment of women "is a subject on which everyone has an opinion, but nobody has the facts".

Patricia Tisdall

*Women in Management, published by INSEAD, Boulevard de Constance, F-77305 Fontainebleau Cedex, France.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Schedule 11 and the frustration inside British Leyland

From Mr. Jeff Rooker, MP for Perry Barr (Labour).

Sir, I believe that I can answer the question posed by Mr. Richard Widdowson (September 14) regarding the 32 toolmakers and Schedule 11 of the Employment Protection Act. The use of Schedule 11 is limited to independent trade unions and in the absence of official support cannot be used by individual workers acting alone or in an unofficial group.

The schedule was framed to support collective bargaining—a process which has failed skilled

minorities as presently carried out.

However, the Fair Wages Resolution of the House of Commons is available to any worker or group (official and unofficial) in firms which supply HMG. It was for this reason that representatives of 500 toolmakers at Castle Bromwich (half a mile from SU) submitted a claim in July 1977. The Central Arbitration Committee hearing was held in Birmingham on August 23 last year. The media totally ignored the hearing, the outcome of which could have widespread implications for good in BL.

The company also in the early days tried to ignore the claim even to the extent of refusing to supply the basic information to see if the claim fell within the Resolution, namely confirmation that a contract to supply HMG existed. It took my intervention with the Secretary of State for Defence, the HMG purchasing agent, to secure cooperation. And the public still wonders why there is frustration inside BL.

JEFF ROOKER, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA.

Problems caused by the 'perplexing morass' of EEC competition law

From Mr. G. M. Woods

Sir, As a lawyer, I find that I am increasingly being confronted with almost insoluble problems concerning EEC competition law. I am continually having to advise clients that, because of the far-reaching wording of Article 85 of the Treaty of Rome, they should not include what they consider to be perfectly normal clauses in agreements with overseas parties (not only in the EEC) as these might restrict competition within the EEC.

I am now amazed to see on the first page of the "Business News" of September 6 that the Dutch Government has asked the European Commission what steps it intends to take to limit undue competition between the European aircraft manufacturing industries in view of British Aerospace's

plans to revise the project to build the Hawker Siddeley 146. Is it not time for the Council of Ministers to take some steps and certainly to the perplexing morass of EEC competition law so that businessmen can enter into normal commercial transactions without either running the risk of having huge fines imposed on their companies by the EEC Commission or else having to notify virtually every overseas agreement to the Commission with the aim of securing a delay and possibly unsatisfactory outcome?

I should add that I am, and always have been, an enthusiastic supporter of the concept of the EEC. Yours faithfully, G. M. WOODS, 43 Barons Court Road, London W14 9AU, September 7, 1978.

Level of Co-op pensions

From Mr. Bryan Askew

Sir, It is encouraging to see opposition to some of the Co-op's activities (Business News, September 7) but the Co-op's pension scheme is a very generous one when compared to other Co-op pensions. My step-father died last December at the age of 83 and his pension (with no widow's provision) having served one society for 51 years was £124 per week (it had been £100 from 1.08 on June 27, 1977).

The poor treatment of Co-op employees has been a feature of its historical past and it is amazing how Co-op boards generally constituted of amateur affairs committees, have treated those of their own social class over whom they had control.

Yours faithfully, BRYAN ASKEW, 27 Golf Links Avenue, Tadcaster LS24 9HF.

Conditions in the building industry

From Mr. D. P. Tolhurst

Sir, May a craftsman at the "safety end" of the building industry respond to Mr. Armit's letter on conditions in the industry (September 13)?

I am a carpenter employed by a national medium-sized firm. I have worked on four sites in Britain for my firm, and at each one the conditions are atrocious—ancient cabins serving as canteens as well as stores and workshops, without lighting, hot or even running water, and truly indescribable lavatories. All are covered by the industries Joint Working Rule Agreement, various codes and Acts of Parliament. All are ignored as much as possible.

The same is true of safety. It is the haphazard working conditions that lead to accidents, eg, unqualified erection of scaffolding. Having a site kept clean and safe all the time

requires labour which is deemed unproductive.

By its very nature building employment is casual. Until very recently if you found the job too dirty, unsafe, badly paid, etc, you voted with your feet. Although I dispute Mr. Armit's figures concerning stability of the workforce, many people have to stay with a bad job or firm because of the general lack of work, with many hundreds of thousands of operatives having been forced out of the industry.

Regarding "overall remuneration", my best as a craftsman for 40 years is £58. To ensure a decent wage (gross £90, net £60) I have to work from 8 am to 6.30 pm six days a week. I presume by "overall" he means "much overtime".

The real problems of the industry will not be solved by the Campaign Against Building Industry Nationalisation, des-

perately trying to maintain their cosy exploitation of a basically fragmented and non-unionized workforce. If CABIN succeeds, we will be left with the same low paid, low quality of today, plus the "hump" cowboys and the corruption and theft that prevail at all levels.

I personally believe that nationalisation would result in a situation like that of the dockers: with a stifling of all enterprise, but that seems infinitely preferable to many operatives. I am against that and would prefer to see a good job for a fair wage. The sooner management get out of their offices and on to sites and talk to the men, the sooner they will understand what has to be done.

Yours faithfully, D. P. TOLHURST, 51 Ravenswood Road, Redford, Bristol 6.

ROYAL DUTCH PETROLEUM COMPANY

(N.V. Koninklijke Nederlandsche Petroleum Maatschappij) Established at The Hague, The Netherlands

INTERIM DIVIDEND 1978

The Supervisory Board and the Board of Management of the Company have declared on account of the expected total dividend in respect of the year 1978, an interim dividend amounting to Netherlands Guilders 5.00 per share on its outstanding shares of 20 guilders par value.

A. On the Bearer Shares

(1) This interim dividend will be payable against surrender of coupon No. 164 on or after 20th September, 1978 at the offices of N. M. Rothschild & Sons Limited, New Court, St. Swithin's Lane, London EC4P 4DU on business days between the hours of 9.30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Payment will be made in sterling at the buying rate of exchange current in Amsterdam at 2 p.m. on 15th September, 1978, in the case of coupons presented on or before that date, or on the day of presentation in the case of coupons presented subsequently. In view of the fact that Netherlands guilder funds are being provided by the Company for payment of this dividend, the usual foreign exchange commission will be deducted from the sterling proceeds. Coupons must be accompanied by a presentation form, copies of which can be obtained from N. M. Rothschild & Sons Limited, and the face of each coupon must bear the stamp or other indication showing the name of the presenter.

Coupons must be left for an appropriate period for examination and must be handed in personally. Coupons cannot be paid through the post.

In the case of shareholders not resident within the Scheduled Territories the paying agent may, at the request of the Authorised Depositary presenting the coupons, pay the dividend in a different currency. Information in this respect will be supplied by the paying agent upon request.

Netherlands dividend tax at the reduced rate of 15 per cent will be deducted from the gross dividend where:

(a) United Kingdom income tax has also been deducted; (b) Coupons are presented on behalf of residents of the United States of America, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands Antilles, Norway, South Africa, Sweden or West Germany, provided they lodge the appropriate declaration form.

Netherlands dividend tax at the reduced rate of 20 per cent will be deducted from the gross dividend where coupons are presented on behalf of residents of Indonesia or Surinam, provided they lodge the appropriate declaration form.

In all other cases Netherlands dividend tax of 25 per cent is to be deducted.

(c) On 26th September, 1978, this interim dividend will be paid to Depositories admitted by Centrum Voor Fondsenadministratie B.V., Amsterdam, on the shares whose dividend sheets were in their custody at the close of business on 15th September, 1978. Such payment will be made through the medium of N. M. Rothschild & Sons Limited, after receipt by them of a duly completed CF Dividend Claim Form.

Where appropriate, the usual affidavit certifying non-residence in the United Kingdom will also be required if payment is to be made without deduction of United Kingdom income tax.

Where under the double tax agreement between the United Kingdom and the Netherlands 15 per cent Netherlands dividend tax has been withheld, the 15 per cent Netherlands tax is allowable for a resident of the United Kingdom as a credit against the United Kingdom income tax payable in respect of the dividend. The deduction of United Kingdom income tax at the reduced rate of 15 per cent instead of at the basic rate of 33 per cent represents a provisional allowance of credit at the rate of 15 per cent.

B. On the Registered Shares registered in the United Kingdom Section of the Amsterdam Register. The sterling amount of this interim dividend is fixed at 118.810p, per share based on the sterling/guilder rate of exchange being N.85 4.2155 = £1, current in Amsterdam on 14th September, 1978.

The record date will be 25th September, 1978; shareholders registered at the close of business on that date will be entitled to receive the dividend.

On or before 17th October, 1978 dividend warrants will be posted by the transfer agent, Algemene Bank, Nederland N.V., Amsterdam, to shareholders registered in their books on the record date.

From the dividend on the registered shares Netherlands dividend tax of 25 per cent has also to be deducted. Where under the relevant tax convention shareholders are entitled to a reduction of the Netherlands dividend tax, this can only be effected through a request for a partial refund of the tax withheld on the appropriate tax affidavit.

15th September 1978 ROYAL DUTCH PETROLEUM COMPANY

United Biscuits
Interim results for 1978

Consolidated Profit Statement for the 28 weeks ended 15th July 1978

52 weeks to 31st Dec 1977 (Audited)	28 weeks to 15th July 1978 (Unaudited)	28 weeks to 15th July 1977 (Unaudited)
£000	£000	£000
Sales		
378,100	227,162	187,701
225,900	120,935	122,305
17,900	10,833	9,285
8,300	3,848	3,750
630,200	362,778	323,041
Trading Profit		
28,400	14,883	11,806
14,000	6,463	7,451
(600)	(518)	(209)
400	(142)	153
42,200	20,686	19,201
4,100	2,091	2,164
38,100	18,595	17,037
18,800	8,904	8,424
19,300	9,691	8,613
8.9p	3.9p	4.1p
Dividends		
Interim (now declared)	1978	1977
Final (to be recommended, in the absence of unforeseen circumstances)	1.506p	1.817p
	3.006p	2.682p
Supplementary dividend for 1977 (due to change in ACT rate) payable with interim Increase in proposed dividends over 1977:	0.000275p	—
	10%	—

Profits increased by £1.6 million to £18.6 million and sales by £40 million to £363 million.

United Kingdom

Trading in the United Kingdom has been extremely competitive. However, I am glad to say that profits are very satisfactory.

Our entry into the frozen food market has been more successful than forecast, but at this stage of its development this operation must be seen as an investment for the future.

United States

Both production and sales in the USA were seriously affected by factors outside our control—the worst January weather in living memory aggravated by the coal strike. Additionally, Keebler's intensive capital programme is resulting in some temporary loss of efficiency in their factories, and gives rise to increased interest charges.

We expect the greater part of the capital programme to be completed in 1979 when current tight production capacity will be eased.

Europe

The distribution costs of our Spanish subsidiary, Productos Ortiz, remain too high for our level of trade, and the first half results were disappointing.

Outlook

At our Annual General Meeting in May, I said that our profit increase in the second half was likely to be more significant than in the first. We now see the rate of increase in the second half being more in line with the rate of increase in the first.

While our profit improvement may not be as great as we would have liked, we believe it important for our future profit growth to accept the cost of investing heavily at this time to take advantage of the trends we see developing in the 1980's.

15th September, 1978

Heckle Lawing
Chairman

UB United Biscuits
United Biscuits (Holdings) Limited, Syon Lane, Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 5NN

McVITIES · CRAWFORDS · MACFARLANES · KP · CARRS · WIMPY · KEEBLER

Britain 'has no option' on microcircuit technology

By Kenneth Owen
Technology Correspondent

If British industry failed to apply microcircuit technology it could face drastic consequences, Mr Albert Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, said at the weekend.

Addressing a conference on computer technology and employment, organized by the Technical, Administrative and Supervisory Section (TASS) of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, Mr Booth said: "There is no certainty about job loss if we do apply microcircuit technology. There is absolute certainty about job loss if we do not."

If a given technology offered significant competitive advantage, then either we grasped the advantage or we did not compete at all. If our competitors were boosting their productivity and reducing their labour costs by employing new techniques, and they were then we had no option if we wished to maintain employment.

Efficiency and high productivity usually generated higher demand, so it would be wrong to suppose that the loss of individual production-line jobs would necessarily mean the loss of employment overall.

"Perhaps it is not too optimistic to suggest that the productivity gains that microcircuit technology can bring us can help the advanced economies out of recession and restore the pattern of fast economic growth that characterized their performance throughout the 1950s and 1960s."

A report on the applications of microcircuit technology is to be published today by the Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development.

West Yorkshire looks for EEC help to revitalise textile areas

With the greater part of Britain's wool textile industry concentrated in West Yorkshire, it is not surprising that the County Council has turned its attention to discovering how local authorities may play a more active role in tackling the long-standing economic and social problems of the textile areas.

They have found an avenue in the establishment by the European Commission of an Industrial Development Fund to assist what are termed as "crisis industries". Shipbuilding and textiles are at the head of the queue, and last week the Employment and Economic Development sub-committee of the County Council approved a report to be used as a submission to the EEC for help.

A strong case for seeking funds to revitalize the impoverished textile areas is made out in what has come to be known as STAR (Scheme for Textile Area Regeneration). A key feature of the proposals is that not only should financial incentives be awarded to encourage the development of new industries and existing firms, but money should also be awarded to local authorities in hard-hit textile areas.

It is argued that local authorities are very well placed to assess the needs of their areas, and grants should be made to assist in a variety of local authority functions including such things as preparing sites for new industry, constructing new industrial units, refurbishing old premises, improving access, and traffic circulation and other local government tasks directed at attracting new industry.

The report acknowledges that some of these functions would qualify for grant aid from the existing EEC Regional Development Fund, but the County Council makes the point that traditional textile areas tend not to attract regional fund grants and the odds are against the Industrial Development Fund duplicating the Regional Development Fund.

In its STAR report, West Yorkshire manages to keep its own problems in a European context. It makes the points that in 1976 production in the EEC textile industry was less than 7 per cent above the 1970 value, and below the 1973 peak. In natural fibres such as wool, cotton and silk, output has been declining for more than a decade.

There has been a deteriorating trade balance in textile and clothing products. In clothing and ready-to-wear garments a surplus of £540m in 1970 had been turned into a deficit of £1,451m by 1975.

On the jobs front contraction in natural fibres industries has been going on for 15 years, and in the past five years synthetics have also shed labour. Between 1970 and 1976 employment in EEC textiles fell from 2,307,500 to 1,702,300, or more than 25 per cent.

The crisis in textiles is put down to five principal causes: structural over-capacity, increasing mechanization, lower operating costs and pricing policies of overseas competitors, tariff and non-tariff barriers to export markets, and a lack of a unified approach to the textile industry by EEC countries.

Industry in the regions

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Nearer home, the report mentions impressive, albeit depressing statistics. In West Yorkshire about 88,700 workers were employed in 1976 and of those some 54,800 are said to be in wool textiles, though this may be a little below the industry's own estimates. Textiles have been among the worst hit industries for job losses in West Yorkshire. Between 1966 and 1975 there was a loss of more than 40 per cent and in the 15 years to 1976 a loss of 96,000 jobs cut the workforce by half.

Among the black spots were blacker spots. In the Bradford and Keighley area six textile jobs in 10 disappeared and the STAR report points out that as a proportion of total employment in the textile area, the percentage employed declined from 34 per cent in 1961 to about 18 per cent in 1976.

The report puts the value of investment projects attracting government aid at about two-thirds of what would have been expected from the size of the industrial base of the area.

One of the puzzling characteristics of West Yorkshire is that the unemployment level, despite staggering job losses, has almost always been below the national average. The County Council's explanation is that textiles have always employed a high proportion of women and of the 96,000 jobs lost by 1975 about 60 per cent were women's jobs and women traditionally tend not to register as unemployed.

Another view is that textiles have always tended to employ an older workforce and many of the job losses were those affecting people nearing retirement age. In short, unemployment figures which tend to be used as a yardstick when

Ronald Kershaw

Business appointments Rolls-Royce manager on GKN board



Mr David Plastow of Rolls-Royce

Mr David Plastow, group managing director of Rolls-Royce Motors, has been made a non-executive director of GKN, Kees & Nettleton.

Lieutenant General Sir Hugh Cunningham and Mr Hugh Lang have joined the board of Fairley Holdings as non-executive directors.

Mr David Abell, managing director of Sir Industries, becomes non-executive chairman of the newly-formed holding company, Aveling Barford Holdings. Mr Leslie Wharton, managing director of Aveling Barford Holdings, becomes chairman of five subsidiary companies. Directors are: Mr John Brooks, Mr Graham Sweetman, Mr Ernie Watkin and Mr Alan Beasley.

Sir Alex Alexander, chairman of Imperial Foods, has joined the board of Inchcape Insurance Holdings.

As a result of the resignation of Mr John Deslaurier, senior deputy chairman of Leigh Interests, Mrs J. Agar, chairman, is to take on additional executive duties. Mr Robert Eades, deputy chairman, will take over responsibility for the car and merchandising divisions. Mr Malcolm Wood becomes the senior full-time executive director, and has been made chief executive, environmental division. Mr C. E. Wilkinson becomes managing director of Gibson Waste and also joins the environmental division board.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

US demand fuels De Beers as group enters big expansion phase

Johannesburg, Sept 17

Last week about a quarter of a million De Beers shares were traded on the floor of the Johannesburg Stock Exchange taking the price from 780 cents to a peak of 845 cents before stabilizing in the mid-830s. The demand which more than doubled the market turnover figures stemmed from the United States, where buyers were fired with the prospects of South Africa's largest company by three disconnected events. First, Merrill Lynch issued a bullish investment report, then came an article in *Newsweek*, followed by TV coverage of the company and its affairs.

The result was strong buying orders and an interest which



Mr H. F. Oppenheimer, chairman of De Beers Consolidated Mines

Mining

even showed marginal hints of and the raid on the Capetown Squatters camp did not damp down. Gold shares were affected, but not the De Beers price movements and have even shown marginal hints of weakness, but De Beers ruled strong and was largely responsible for the improvement in security funds, which gained five United States cents to be quoted firm at the week-end at 77.5 United States cents.

There appears to be good reason for this renewed interest in the diamond group, which has more than doubled in value in two years. The gem market is still strong. Even the latest 30 per cent increase in price does not appear to have levelled off a sustained demand.

Some analysts here think that the year-end will find De Beers sitting with a mountain of cash in excess of one thousand million rands and the investment department of Hill Samuel put out a feeler suggesting that with all this money in its coffers De Beers will start to diversify their interests.

While the company will not comment on this suggestion, the general belief here is that apart from routine following up of its already extensive interests outside diamonds and its products, it is highly probable that the De Beers Group will venture into other fields.

In any event, the group needs and must conserve its resources

not only to finance the biggest expansion phase in its long history, but also to husband its resources to finance its stocks of diamonds if and when the present demand cycle should turn down.

The De Beers management has always held that the demand for its jewelry products is cyclical and the providing-for-the-rainy-day philosophy associated by Sir Ernest Oppenheimer still prevails.

While De Beers might be cash heavy at this year's end, when all its new mines and increased production plans reached fulfilment, the group will need all the finance it has to absorb output, and to keep prices stable. There is a strong view here that because of the political sensitivity in the many areas in which De Beers operates, group policy is to get the diamonds out as rapidly as possible. Gems in the vaults will ultimately be more valuable than reserves in the ground when unrest might make mining most difficult. In its present range, De Beers is not overpriced, particularly for American buyers who can get the share with discounted security funds.

Western Deep Levels Decision announced this week to increase the capacity of its uranium plant from its present 747,000 tonnes a year to 2,400,000 tonnes a year was foreshadowed in Mr C. Langton's chairman's statement earlier this year. He said then that uranium was becoming a significant source of income and in 1977 for the first time the uranium content was being

used as a composite pay limit factor together with gold. In 1976 uranium contributed about 2 per cent to total untaxed profit of R82.2m. Last year the mine's contribution was 3.4 per cent of R92.2m. And the mine already has forward contracts which it cannot fulfil from its own output. It is "borrowing" the shortfall from another producer in the Anglo American Group.

The significance of the decision to erect extensions to the uranium plant at Western Deep is that it indicates the favourable future outlook for the South African uranium production as a whole.

Prices, apparently, are firming and contracts are negotiable well into the future. This is the reason why shareholders in gold fields properties are a restive as they are.

Many of them feel that G Prop should turn to account not only the uranium in the mine but that steps should be taken, maybe to reopen the property.

Some of the agitation being stirred up by speculators share dealers but on the other hand there is some validity in the claim that at the present price of gold and uranium in the market, the old Luipards mine might be viable. The snag however, is that the capital costs of setting up a new mine—for the ready money the cost would amount to—would be a payable proposition.

In his chairman's statement Mr A. M. D. Gnodde says the talks are being held with the same parties about the Luipards. One of the like parties would be West Rand Cons, the uranium/gold producer in the general mining group. As a neighbour, West Rand Cons could have an access to both the old workings, as well as the dumps, the costs involved would be a chapter than starting up again.

But much remains to be done before words are written and a tributary agreement signed. A thorough investigation will have to be made in the values available.

And that means an ample light for market speculators.

Harold Fridjohn

Laird Group owes improvement to pick-up in steel sector

By Our Financial Staff

Most of the one-fifth improvement in first half pre-tax profits of £4.4m at Laird Group has come from the pick-up in its steel side, whose dismal performance has dogged the company for almost three years now.

Compared with break-even this time a year ago, the Metal Industries Division turned in a healthy £1m this time as volume picked up a little and prices hardened marginally as a result of the Davignon moves in the EEC. Laird has apparently bucked the industry trend in heavy steel plate by concentrating on general engineering rather than shipbuilding and unlike its nearest competitors it is one of the only companies in this area to be in the black. For perspective though steel

profits dipped in around £7.4m four years ago.

Elsewhere, now that it is virtually out of the ship-repairing business the improvement has been across the board. Motor components have as expected been especially strong with the French and German divisions the most buoyant to judge by the £400,000 rise in overseas tax to £1.5m but zero components, welding, and so on have also done better.

Some of the gloss is rubbed off the trading return by the £350,000 closure costs at Western Ship Repairs (with a similar sum to come in the second half) which has dragged down retained profits to just short of £2m.

After last year's abortive bid for Charringtons Industrial,

Laird is now preferring to use its resources within the business. Capital spending this year will be £10m but with unused bank resources of £25m and an under-gear balance sheet to scope is there for an acquisition should it appear on before taking into account the nationalization proceeds which further news is expected by 2 year-end.

For the present Laird nevertheless still expanding emerging hotels and catering side which should make £750,000 this year. All the same the steel recovery remains tenuous and that is already reflected in a prospective ratio of under 5 at 561p against £104m pre-tax at least for the year, although the yield a drawback at only 4.6 per cent

Mills & Allen still strong despite inquiry

The Monopolies Commission inquiry into roadside poster advertisers which is bound to feature industry leader Mills & Allen will probably take two years or more. That, anyway is what Mills' chairman, Sir Ian Morrow has been told.

The news can hardly harm the shares which fell 14p to 183p in mid-August when the investigation was announced. They are now 182p. Last year pre-tax profits bounded from £2.63m to £4.96m, and net borrowings dived from £3.4m to £4.9m. Property sales accounted for £2m of this.

Media order books are still strong but how long the boom will last is, Sir Ian says, "a matter of speculation". For a while the Foreign Exchange broker, the future is impossible to forecast. The report also refers vaguely to plans for "broadening the profit base".

Dixons cheerful

A confident Mr Stanley Kalms, chairman of Dixons, told shareholders in his annual

report that overall, the group is in good shape.

There are a few problem areas, he added, but these are being energetically tackled. The group is anticipating a capital expenditure programme of £5.5m this year and is devoting a large part of its effort towards the future. The difficulty of fluctuating currencies and quotas cannot be satisfactorily resolved at present, but they will have to be stabilized before real world trade can gather momentum. In the meantime, the current year has started reasonably well.

Melody Mills

Melody Mills, the wallpaper manufacturer and distributor, should improve on past results and do better than average in world markets, according to chairman, Mr Walter Meigh, in the annual report. Turnover and profits have bettered the budgeted figures in the first four months of the year and new products have been in demand, he said. This progress is in spite of "continued difficulties

in the wallcoverings industry and with little evidence of turning confidence in the United Kingdom improvements in world economic conditions."

Border TV attack

A bitter attack on the view of the Annon Committee made by Mr John Burgess, chairman of Border Television in his annual statement.

The industry impasse waited to learn the present Government's view on it and the proposals for the future. It is to the many leaks and details on its possible contents, a final publication went off a dark squib. The White Paper contains many admirable points the chairman added, but a group is bitterly disappointed with the central proposal for the fourth channel should be a new authority instead of operated by existing TV companies. In the meantime, the group's advertising revenue still buoyant and the current year should be financially satisfactory.

GRENFELL and COLEGRAVE

(Members of the Stock Exchange)

are pleased to announce that as from today, 18th September, 1978, their address will be

55/61 MOORGATE,
LONDON, EC2R 6DR

The Telephone and Telex numbers and Telegraphic address REMAIN UNCHANGED

Tel: 01-628 6044 Telex 28902

GULF OIL CORP

Has halted drilling of a well on block 857 in the Baltimore Canyon area, about 30 miles from Atlantic City. Gulf has a 50 per cent working interest in the block with 40 per cent interest held 25 per cent by Amintol United States, 15 per cent by Tennessee and 10 per cent by Cities Service-Reuters.

TRAFFORD PARK ESTATES

Profits, after all charges, for year to June 30, up from £473,000 to £700,000. Total gross dividend, 6.04p (5.52p). Earnings per share, 5.12p (5.37p).

LYON AND LYON

Turnover for half-year to June 30 up from £2.98m to £3.43m, but pre-tax profits down from £340,000 to £244,000. Board expects year's pre-tax profits to be little changed from 1977.

DANKS GOWERTON

Chairman told annual meeting that he is confident that existing order book of engineering division and encouraging trend of orders placed on steel division will produce record results this year.

Chicago's largest bank is on the move.

On September 18, Continental Bank officially opens its greatly expanded London headquarters at 162 Queen Victoria Street. Continental Bank House represents our tangible commitment to international banking, to the European market, and specifically to the United Kingdom. It will serve as the base of our European network and bring together in one location not only our branch bank activities in London, but also our merchant bank, Continental Illinois Limited, and our investment subsidiary, Continental Illinois International Investment Corporation.

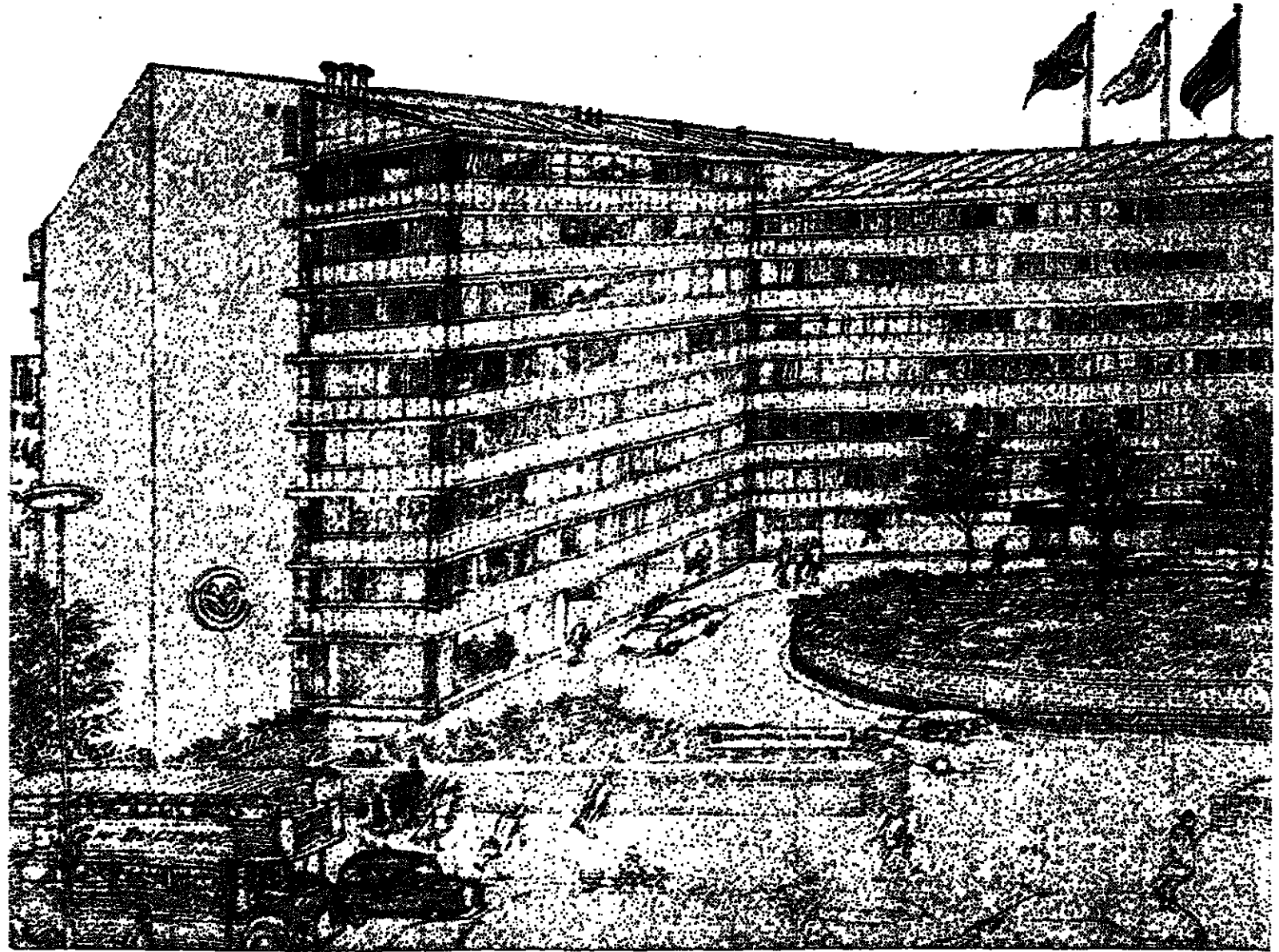
We are proud of our continued history in London, where we opened our first full-service overseas branch in 1962. Then as now, the selection of London as our headquarters for banking activities throughout Europe was most appropriate. Few cities are more attuned to the concept of banking on an international scale than London—the long-time premier money centre of the world.

Continental Bank is the seventh largest bank in the United States, with 126 offices in 39 countries. In Europe alone we have 20 locations with specialists who are committed to providing financial services to the ever-developing European business community—a community we are proud to serve.

CONTINENTAL BANK

Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company of Chicago

Argentina	Colombia	Korea	Switzerland
Australia	Ecuador	Lebanon	Taiwan
Austria	France	Luxembourg	Thailand
Bahamas	Greece	Malaysia	United Kingdom
Bahrain	Hong Kong	Mexico	United States
Belgium	Indonesia	Morocco	Venezuela
Brazil	Iran	The Netherlands	West Germany
Canada	Italy	Pakistan	
Cayman Islands	Jamaica	Peru	
	Japan	The Philippines	
	Kenya	Singapore	
		Spain	



NET REPORT
Beers as
ansion ph

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Company pointers
plenty for market

Other largest list of com-
both large and small,
e reporting this week to
the market decide
ed or whether the FT
should be falling back to
n balance, the pointers
vourable since many ana-
are looking for useful
increases.

Reyce will be among
first to report, although
ations of about £5.5m
£3.67m have been
discounted in a strong
run recently. The often
rated Appleyard Group
turns in £12.5m after
30 pre-tax, while another
concern, Wadhwa
er is expected to go even
with a rise from £15.1m
ut £2.1m. Harold Perry,
o publish on Thursday,
ates a strong vehicle dis-
on list where dealers are
for £2.5m against £1.49m.



Sir Denis Mountain, chairman of Eagle Star.

This week

market, incidentally, is
ed to start in Manor
combination of Manches-
erages and Oliver Rice,
but Office of Fair Trade
clays could postpone the
for a few days. And
gs could be somewhat
al since the Takeover
has inserted a merger
which states that the
could be unravelled at
ime up to October 22.
rim results from the
of Scotland should indi-
whether profits are on
for brokers' annual
ates of around £35m pre-
while a big dividend in-
is expected from
y Services which could
pre-tax profits of approx-
£550,000.

Wednesday, the market
asomely convinced that
& Lyle will keep its
se of a maintained
d interim dividend, but
ates of Eagle Star half-
s are coming down to
£22.5m after problems
nced by storming and
on the property account.
mproved volume sales
maintained market share
likely to lift Rowntree
intash, reporting on Wed-
y, from £12m to some-
in the region of £13.5m.
er a glut of economic in-
irs last week, the in-
ze of such fundamentals
lessen as the new account
Still, there should be
hing to chew on in the
s of average wages and
rations on the one hand,
er with second-quarter
Domestic Product calcu-
s. The rate of second
r capital expenditure will
nounced no Thursday.

Y: Interims: Appleyard
Brent Chemicals, Camrex,
ean Ferries, Federated

Land and Building, Gibbons
(Stanley), Low and Bonar Grp,
Simon Eng. Sykes (Henry),
United Glass, Wadhwa Stringer
Ltd. Finals: F. and C. Eurotrust

TOMORROW: Interims: Aurora Hlgs, Bemrose Corp,
Bernard Matthews, Bank of
Scotland, Bodycote Ind, Copy-
dex, Electrical and General
Invest, Hastings and Horton,
Services and Electronics, Ex-
panded Metal Co. J. B. Hlgs
and Rowan and Boden. Finals:
Elder Smith Goldsbrough Mort,
County and District Prop, Free
State Geduld Mines, Free State
Saplaas Gold Mine, Jentique
(Hlgs), and Scholes (George H.).

WEDNESDAY: Interims: Brix-
ton Est. Dickinson Robinson,
Eagle Star Insurance, Gibbs
(Antony) Hlgs, Hamillborne
Ltd, Harris and Sheldon Grp,
Hastair, Hoskins and Horton,
Kleinwort Benson, Lonsdale,
Laporte Ind, Leadhall Ster-
ling, London and Manchester
Ass, Molins, Plantation Hlgs,
Rowntree Meckintosh, Riz,
Spear and Jackson Intl, Tate
& Lyle (Second Interim),
Tilbury Contracting and United
States Debuture Corp. Finals:
Burne-Anderson, Ferry Pick-
er, GT Japan Inv Tst.

THURSDAY: Interims: Ben-
talls, Brown Boveri Kent, City
Hotels Grp, Delta Metal, Gre-
ham Hse, Hall Eng, Kent
(George), Leyland Paint and
Wallpaper, London and Holy-
rood Tst, London and Provincial
Tst, Mackay (Hugh), Perry
(Harold) Motors, Ramones
Sims and Jefferies, Selection
Tst, Stone-Platt Ind, Sumner
(Francis), United Newsprinters,
Wilkinson Warburton, and Wimp
Tst. Finals: Dowling and
Mills, Redbrook Inv Tst, Roan
Consolidated Mines.

FRIDAY: Interims: Restwood
Co, Bulein (A.F.), Southampton
Isle of Wight and South of Eng-
land, Ward White Corp, Finner-
ley, Blue Bird Confectionery, Tele-
fusion.

Ray Maughan

Briefly

AL
ual, which earlier this year
ed a 40 per cent stake in
all. Industry has half-
ed its Australian interests
Bradmill, by the \$A3.2m
(£2m) acquisition of Tootal
alla by Accl. Bradmill has
used Accl for \$A10.5m.

I. TRUST
te revenue of Australian and
gional trust rose from
00 to £397,000 for year to
31. Total gross dividend,
(4p).

RCATED ENG
up turnover of Bifurcated
eering rose from £5.8m to
£7.7m, pre-tax profits, £788,000
(000). Interim payment,
raised from equal to 1.38p
9p.

OLLIA GROUP
dogga Group (Mouldings)
s sales up from £2.2m to
£3.1m and pre-tax profits from
£0.1m to £0.2m for half-year
ne 30. Board expects year's
s will show "satisfactory
vement".

Stock list of fixed interest stocks

	Latest price	Prev week		Latest price	Prev week
90 William 7% Deb	68 1/2	68 1/2	ICI 5% '93-2004	55 1/2	55 1/2
2% Hlgs '91, £1	74	73 1/2	Do 7% '93-96-91	69	69
2% Deb '97	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '98	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '99	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '00	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '01	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '02	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '03	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '04	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '05	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '06	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '07	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '08	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '09	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '10	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
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2% Deb '21	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '22	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '23	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '24	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '25	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
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2% Deb '35	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '36	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '37	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '38	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '39	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '40	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '41	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '42	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '43	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '44	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '45	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
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2% Deb '49	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '50	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '51	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '52	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '53	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '54	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
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2% Deb '56	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '57	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '58	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '59	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
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2% Deb '62	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '63	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '64	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '65	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '66	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '67	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
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2% Deb '69	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
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2% Deb '73	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '74	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '75	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '76	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '77	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '78	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '79	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '80	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '81	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '82	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '83	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '84	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '85	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '86	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '87	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '88	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '89	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '90	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '91	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '92	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '93	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '94	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '95	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '96	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '97	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '98	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '99	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '00	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '01	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '02	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '03	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '04	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '05	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '06	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '07	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '08	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '09	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '10	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '11	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '12	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '13	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '14	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '15	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '16	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '17	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '18	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '19	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '20	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '21	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '22	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '23	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '24	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '25	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '26	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '27	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '28	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '29	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '30	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '31	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '32	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '33	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '34	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '35	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '36	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '37	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '38	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '39	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '40	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '41	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '42	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '43	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '44	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '45	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '46	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '47	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '48	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '49	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '50	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '51	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '52	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '53	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '54	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '55	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '56	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '57	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '58	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91-97	80 1/2	80 1/2
2% Deb '59	74 1/2	73 1/2	Imperial 6% '91		

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

PERSONAL CHOICE



Cilento who heads the cast in tonight's first of the 13-part drama series Tycoon (BBC 1).

On sight unseen, I feel I can safely recommend series: The Marble Horseman (BBC 2, 9.30) if only because its new ground on television. In this new series, original ch will be carried out into the arts and humanities. The subject is the Parthenon frieze—centre piece of the Marbles. Many eminent men have given their own versions of it to be written, she is the automatic choice. Someone Norman Redway is however, about to write a book about con. which will have some nasty things in it. So off goes Cilento, on an odyssey into his late husband's self.

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THE SYMBOLS MEAN: * STEREO; * BLACK AND WHITE; * SPEAKERS 1 & 2

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am. Open University (until 7.55). 6.40, Living in Warsaw. 7.05, A fish in the tank. 7.30, Mechanics—rockets, orbits. 8.25, For schools, colleges: 9.30, Science all round. 10.00, Merry go round. 10.25, Maths. 10.45, You and Me: for the five-year-olds and under. 11.22, For schools, colleges: 11.22, Music time. 11.45, General studies. 12.45 pm, News and weather. 1.00, Pebble Mill: including Middle-Class Peasant, with Forensic McLaughlin. 1.45, Mr. Bean: Ray Brooks with the Magic Carpet. 2.01, For schools, colleges: 2.01, Words and pictures. 2.18, Location Britain. 2.40, Going to work. 3.15, Songs of Praise: from RAP Henlow, Beds.

BBC 2

6.40 am. Open University (until 7.55). 6.40, Earthquake—prediction and prevention. 7.05, Maths—complex analysis. 7.30, Grasses and agriculture. 11.00, Play School: same as BBC 1. 3.55, 2.15 pm, Let's Go: repeat showing of yesterday's programme aimed at the mentally handicapped. 4.55, Open University (until 7.00). 4.55, The early industrial town. 5.20, Lakes and rivers. 5.45, Maths—numerical eigenvalues. 6.10, M101/29 Geometry. Klein. 6.35, Work study at Hoover Ltd. 7.00, News, with subtitles for hard of hearing.

THAMES

9.30 am, For Schools: 9.30, Finding Out; 9.47, How We Used to Live; 10.10, It's Your Future; 10.35, Music Round; 11.05, My World—Real Life; 11.17, The Messengers; 11.39, Making a Living. 12.00, Paper: Making things from newspaper. 12.10 pm, Stepping Stones: shells on the seashore. 12.30, At the Embankment: Paul Brady with folk music. 1.00, News, with Peter Sissons. 1.20, Thames News: local round-up. 1.30, About Britain: Clive Ginn continues his walk through lovely Cornwall. 2.00, After Noon: Judith Chalmers tells you how to live with migraine. 2.25, Film: I'll Be Your Sweetheart (1945), turn-of-the-century musical romance about three songwriters. Margaret Lockwood sings prettily. 4.20, Clipped: part two of Chris Kelly's chat with Arthur Askey about his films. 4.45, Enid Blyton's Famous Five: who is trying to scare the children?



Brian Close, former England skipper, who appears in This England (ITV, 8.30).

3.55, Play School: for the under fives, James leaves tells the story of Victor Square. 4.20, Hongkong Phoebe: cartoons. 4.40, C. B. Bears: more cartoons. 5.00, John Craven's News round: junior overseas. 5.10, Blue Peter: what the team did in New Orleans, including a steamboat ride on the Mississippi. 5.45, News, with Angela Rippon. 5.55, Nationwide: with the regular presenters. 6.45, Dad's Army: Private Pike horrors the staff-car which Captain Mainwaring has been given. Naturally, there are mechanical problems. 7.20, Tycoon: first of 13 plays about big business, with Diana Cinto as a tycoon's widow.

7.05, World Chess: Jeremy James with another report on the Korcnoi-Karpov games. 7.30, News and weather. 7.40, Expert Opinion: new series about burning topics. Tonight's subject is: Can we cut the date queues? Taking part is Jack Jones, former president of the TGWU, and John Greenborough, president of the CBI. 8.10, Des O'Connor Tonight: new series of talk and variety programmes, guests include Mancunian impressionist Johnny More who tries to teach Mr O'Connor a thing or two. 9.00, Premiere 2: film-director debut by Peter Bakhart. Play about Denholm Elliott looking for a job and his old friend Ian Hendry offering some help. 9.30, Discoveries: new interpretation of the Elgin Marbles, the Parthenon frieze in the British Museum. First of a new series of historical investigations (see Personal Choice). 10.35, The Price of Freedom: new series about the victims of political oppression. Tonight: Dr Marina Volkonskaya describes her life as a psychiatrist in a Leningrad hospital. Her son, Igor, lives in Russia. 11.35, The Price of Freedom: highlights from last week's Leeds International Piano Competition. 11.25, News, weather. 11.40, Open Door: the drugs problem in Britain. Grim report by Life-Line Project.

Radio 4

6.00 am, News, weather. 6.10, Farming Week. 6.30, Today. 6.45, A High Wind in Jamaica (11). 9.00, News. 9.05, Start the Week with Richard Baker. 10.00, News. 10.05, Wildlife. 10.30, Daily Service. 10.45, Story, Billy Fisher. 11.00, News. 11.05, A Pilgrim's Tale. 11.10, Announcements. 12.00, News. 12.05, You and Yours. 12.27, Top of the Form. 12.55, Weather. 1.00, World at One. 1.30, The Archers. 1.45, Woman's Hour. 1.55, Music with Mother. 3.00, News. 3.05, Play: The Girl Who Didn't Want to be... (Frederick Bradbury). 4.35, Story: Jane and Prudence (Janet Hickson) (1). 5.00, PM Reports. 5.40, Serendipity. 5.45, Leads. 6.00, News. 6.30, Share and Share Alike! 7.00, News. 7.05, The Archers. 7.20, From Our Own Correspondent. 7.45, Play: Children of the Red Nun (John Cery). 9.00, Welsh Voices. Alun Hoddinott. 9.30, Companion in Rome. 10.00, World Tonight. 10.30, Origins (series). 11.00, Story: The Turn of the Screw (Henry James) (1).

Radio 3

6.55 am, Weather (mf). 7.00, News. 7.05, Concert: Offenbach, Mercadante, Ronsseel, Saint-Saens. 8.00, News. 8.05, Concert: J. C. Bach, Martinu, Kodaly. 9.00, News. 9.05, Albeniz and Granados. 9.50, Settings of Gerard Manley Hopkins. 10.45, Bach: Violin music. 11.45, Music for Harpsichord: Purcell, Powell, Scarlatti. 12.05 pm, Scottish National Orchestra, part 1: Beethoven, Prokofiev. 1.00, News. 1.05, Concert, part 2: Brahms. 2.00, Music for Organ by Bach. 2.45, Matinee Musicale. 3.45, Brian Matthews introduces Competition: recital. 4.45, New Records: Mozart. 5.15, Handstand. 5.45, Homeward Bound (mf). 6.05, News (mf). 6.10, Homeward Bound (cont) (mf). 6.30, Lifelines: Home and Family (mf). 7.00, Te Kanawa, Abbado and Vienna Philharmonic, part 1: Strauss. 7.55, Part 2: Mahler. 9.00, Creation and the World of Science. 9.30, Piano Recital: Bartok, Debussy, Franck.

Radio 2

3.00 am, News, weather. 5.02, Tony Brandon. 7.30, Ray Asquith. 10.30, Beethoven's C Sharp Minor Quartet, Op 131. 11.45, Jazz in Britain. 11.45, News. 11.50-11.55, Schubert Song. 11.55, Jazz. 12.00, News. 12.05, David Hamilton: including 2.45 and 3.45, Sports Desk. 4.30, Waggoners' Walk. 4.45, Sports Desk. 4.45, John Dunn: including 5.45, Sports Desk. 6.45, Sports Desk. 7.02, BBC Northern Radio Orchestra. 7.30, Dell. 9.02, Humphrey Lyttelton. 9.55, Sports Desk. 10.02, Pop Score. 10.30, Star Round. 11.02, Brian Matthews introduces Round Midnight. 12.00-12.02 am, News.

Radio 1

5.00 am, As Radio 2 7.02 Dave Lee Travis. 9.00, Simon Bates. 11.31, Paul Barnett including 12.30 pm, Newsbeat. 2.00, Tony Blackburn. 4.31, Kid Murray's Open House. 5.30, The Radio 1 Breakfast Show (joints Radio 2). 10.02, John Peel. 12.00-12.02 am, As Radio 2. 12.02, RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 am, With Radio 2 including 5.45, News. Good Listening. 10.00, With Radio 1. 12.00-12.02 am, With Radio 2.

REGIONAL TV

Granada

9.30 am, Times. 12.30 pm, Gillingham. 11.00, News. 1.00, News. 1.30, News. 2.00, News. 2.30, News. 3.00, News. 3.30, News. 4.00, News. 4.30, News. 5.00, News. 5.30, News. 6.00, News. 6.30, News. 7.00, News. 7.30, News. 8.00, News. 8.30, News. 9.00, News. 9.30, News. 10.00, News. 10.30, News. 11.00, News. 11.30, News. 12.00, News. 12.30, News. 1.00, News. 1.30, News. 2.00, News. 2.30, News. 3.00, News. 3.30, News. 4.00, News. 4.30, News. 5.00, News. 5.30, News. 6.00, News. 6.30, News. 7.00, News. 7.30, News. 8.00, News. 8.30, News. 9.00, News. 9.30, News. 10.00, News. 10.30, News. 11.00, News. 11.30, News. 12.00, News. 12.30, News. 1.00, News. 1.30, News. 2.00, News. 2.30, News. 3.00, News. 3.30, News. 4.00, News. 4.30, News. 5.00, News. 5.30, News. 6.00, News. 6.30, News. 7.00, News. 7.30, News. 8.00, News. 8.30, News. 9.00, News. 9.30, News. 10.00, News. 10.30, News. 11.00, News. 11.30, News. 12.00, News. 12.30, News. 1.00, News. 1.30, News. 2.00, News. 2.30, News. 3.00, News. 3.30, 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News. 7.30, News. 8.00, News. 8.30, News. 9.00, News. 9.30, News. 10.00, News. 10.30



To place an advertisement in any of these categories, call:

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APPOINTMENTS 01-278 9161

PROPERTY ESTATE AGENTS 01-278 9231

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Queries in connection with advertisements that have appeared, other than cancellations or alterations, to:

Classified Queries Dept 01-837 1234, extn 7180

All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Ltd. copies of which are available on request.

- Appointments Vacant 25
Business to Business 26
Commercial Property and Services to the Business 26
Domestic and Catering 7
Education 8 and 9
Financial 26
Health 26
Housing 26
Public and Educational 26
Professional 26
Situations Wanted 26

Box No replies should be sent to:

Box No 100, The Times, New Printing House, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1A 9BS

Deadlines for cancellations and alterations to copy (except for classified advertising) are 11.30 a.m. on the day before the day of publication.

For classified advertising, a copy of the advertisement must be submitted to the advertiser, on any subsequent day, to ensure that the advertisement is published.

PLEASE CHECK your ad. We will not be responsible for errors in advertisements. Each one is carefully checked and proof read. When thousands of advertisements are handled each day, mistakes do occur and we ask therefore that you check your ad and, if you spot an error, report it to The Classified Queries Department immediately by telephoning 01-837 1234 (Ext 7180). We regret that we cannot be responsible for more than one day's incorrect insertion if you do not.

"The Lord is on my side: I will not be moved." Psalm 124:6

BIRTHS

BARLOW—On 15th Sept, at Mount Vernon, a son, Adam.

BULLMORE—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

DE MOCHERIE—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

GOODEY—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

GRAN—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

HORNE—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

LEWIS—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

MARTIN—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

PELTON—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

RUSSELL—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

STANLEY—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

THOMAS—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

WILLIAMS—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

YOUNG—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

ZIMMERMAN—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

ADDITIONAL BIRTHS

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ADDITIONAL BIRTHS

BIRTHS

MAXWELL—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

ROBINSON—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

SMITH—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

WILLIAMS—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

YOUNG—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

ZIMMERMAN—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

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DEATHS

SILVERSTEIN—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

ROBINSON—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

SMITH—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

WILLIAMS—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

YOUNG—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

ZIMMERMAN—On 15th Sept, at St. Mary's, a son, Thomas.

ADDITIONAL DEATHS

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PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGES 26 AND 27

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

Volunteers (preferably experienced) are required for the excavation of a Roman villa at... (text continues)

DIABETES WILL HAVE TO BE CONQUERED AND YOU CAN HELP SAY WHEN

A donation to our research fund will be most welcome. Please send your contribution to... (text continues)

THE EARLY CHRISTMAS BIRD GETS THE EARLY CHRISTMAS DISCOUNTS!

Businesses want to take advantage of the early Christmas advertising... (text continues)

CANCER RESEARCH

If our work had to stop, there would be no research into the causes of cancer... (text continues)

IN MEMORIAM

BARRY, LADY M. E. M. (Marshall) died on 15th Sept. 1978. (text continues)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

THOMPSON—Mrs Peggy Thompson... (text continues)

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

J. H. KENTON, Ltd. Funeral Directors... (text continues)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CARRIGWILL Boys Brigade 50th Anniversary... (text continues)

BOOKS WANTED

CHAPPEL/HOUSEMAN... (text continues)

COMES AND MEET DICK BRUNA

at 5.30 p.m. at the... (text continues)

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

Entertaining Clients can be a problem but not at... (text continues)

THE GASLIGHT

An excellent Restaurant... (text continues)

SUMMER SALES

CLEARANCE SALE of beautiful materials and sample dresses at... (text continues)

YACHTS AND BOATS

UNIQUE UFFA FOX designed 24ft. boat... (text continues)

UK HOLIDAYS

MODERNISED, comfortable, thatched cottage... (text continues)

IT'S THE BESTWAY TO TRAVEL

Economy with reliability. Save on the following routes... (text continues)

MOSMAN—SYDNEY

Large furnished house in Sydney with 4 beds, 2 baths... (text continues)

SHORT LETS

HARLEY ST-REGENT'S PK £100 P.W. Elegantly furnished fully equipped guest house... (text continues)

GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND ASSOCIATION

has moved to new head office at... (text continues)

WILL THE SOLICITORS OF THE LAW

will be holding a meeting... (text continues)

COMES AND MEET DICK BRUNA

at 5.30 p.m. at the... (text continues)

BOOKS WANTED

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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

BARGAIN HOLIDAYS

Costa Brava from £44... (text continues)

AUTUMN HOLIDAYS IN THE GREEK ISLANDS

We can offer the following holidays... (text continues)

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